#### **UNIT 106**

#### PATRICKS POINT STATE PARK

**GENERAL PLAN** 

June 1983

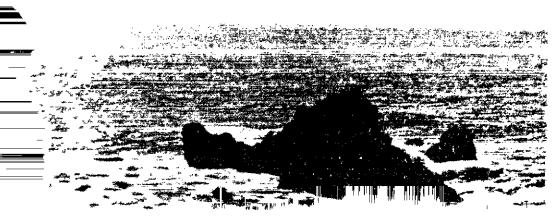


# PATRICK'S POINT STATE PARK

preliminary

### General Plan

June 1983



## PATRICK'S POINT STATE PARK PRELIMINARY GENERAL PLAN

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#### SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

The proposals contained in this general plan can be summarized in three areas: Resource Management; Land Use, Facilities, and Interpretation; and Operations.

#### Resource Management Proposals

- o Restore fire to its natural role in the ecosystem
- o Maintain existing meadows
- o Determine pristine vegetative patterns for the park
- o Maintain vegetative diversity
- o Protect scenic views from the Agate Beach overlook

#### Land Use, Facilities, and Interpretation Proposals

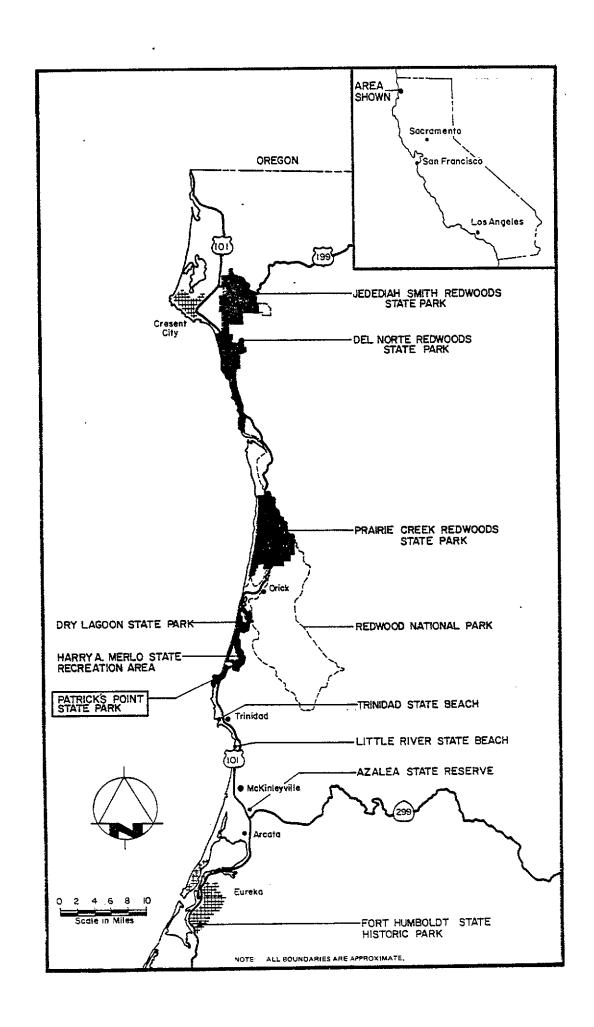
- o <u>Indian Village and Cultural Use Area</u> -- Includes a representative Yurok village, ceremonial dance area, picnic area, comfort station(s), a 15-space parking lot, and a 40-car parking lot. Requires relocation of two mobile homes and relocation of seasonal staff cabins.
- o <u>Visitor Service Center</u> Includes park office, entrance station, visitor center (interpreting Native American and Euroamerican culture and the unit's natural resources), and 20-space parking lot.
- o Staff Housing and Maintenance Center
- o Walk-In Campground -- Includes camping for multiple groups (total capacity 100), comfort station, 20-space parking lot, and access road.
- o Trails
- All-Access Program -- Upgrades existing facilities to provide access for the disabled.
- o Campground Rehabilitation

#### Operations Proposals

- o Continue No-Fee, Short-Term Access Policy
- o Add Staff



# FINEROPICTION



#### INTRODUCTION

#### Unit Description

Patrick's Point State Park is located on the northern coast of California in Humboldt County, 26 miles north of Eureka and 46 miles south of Crescent City. The closest communities are Trinidad, 5.5 miles (6 km) to the south, and the village of Big Lagoon adjacent to the park's northern boundary. Highway 101 forms a portion of the park's eastern boundary. Vehicle access to the park is via Patrick's Point Drive.

Most of the park's 625 acres lie on a peninsula which juts out into the Pacific Ocean. The park is characterized by a variety of natural environments and features: a steep, rocky shoreline; a wide, sandy beach; sunlit meadows; dark, cool forests; 30- to 100-foot tall rock outcroppings; tidepools; and dramatic views up and down the coastline. There are 20,100 feet (6,030 m) of ocean frontage.

Much of the unit is intensively developed for public use. There are 123 campsites divided among three campgrounds, a group picnic area, group campground, 10 walk-in/bike-in campsites, seven day-use parking lots (providing a total of 166 spaces), a campfire center with a 200-person capacity, and a six-mile network of foot trails. Operational facilities include a park office, park museum, entrance station, two maintenance buildings, three wood residences, six seasonal housing cabins, and two mobile homes.

Patrick's Point State Park is one of many State Park System units along the north coast. Trinidad State Beach and Little River State Beach are to the south and Dry Lagoon State Park, Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area, and Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park lie to the north.

#### History of Park Ownership

The main body of what is now Patrick's Point State Park was acquired by the state from 1929-1931. No additional acquisition took place until the 1970s, when the park expanded at two locations. Some 36 acres were purchased at the southern end of the park. The upland property above Agate Beach, at the north end of the park, added 170 acres.

#### Outline of the General Plan

#### Purpose of this Document

This plan provides guidelines for managing and developing Patrick's Point State Park through the next 20 years. It contains recommendations which, if implemented, will lead to the most desired situation.

A general plan is not meant to propose a program of detailed site development. Rather, it legally provides opportunities for future resource management programs and public use facilities. Detailed site plans will be prepared when specific recommendations are funded.

#### Plan Elements

The elements of this plan contain the following information:

#### RESOURCE ELEMENT

- o Summarizes the park's natural and cultural resources.
- o Establishes guidelines for restoration and protection of natural and cultural resources.

#### LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

- o Determines land use and visitor facilities consistent with the park's character.
- o Describes ways to enhance the public's recreational experience and provides for new recreational opportunities where appropriate.
- o Establishes a sequence of park development.

#### OPERATIONS ELEMENT

Outlines an operational program to satisfy the unique management requirements of this unit.

#### INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT

o Establishes themes and methods for interpretation of the unit.

#### CONCESSIONS ELEMENT

o Summarizes concessions opportunities for existing and proposed park facilities.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENT

o Determines potential cultural and environmental impacts of land use and facility proposals.

In its entirety, the plan acts as an informative document for the public, the Legislature, department personnel, and other government agencies.

#### The General Plan Process

The process of creating a plan involves considering many public and governmental concerns, the unit's existing land uses, and any legal constraints. The following factors have guided the creation of this plan:

Natural Resources --- Before completion of this plan, an Inventory of Features was developed for Patrick's Point State Park, which discusses factors relating to the park's natural resources, including climate, topography, hydrology, geology, soils, plant life, animal life, marine life, and esthetic resources.

Through the inventory, significant resource concerns were identified for planning purposes. The plan's Resource Element summarizes the unit's natural resources and establishes resource management guidelines. (Please refer to the Resource Element for information on how natural resources have specifically shaped this plan. The inventory for this unit is on file with the State Department of Parks and Recreation.)

<u>Cultural Resources</u> -- The Inventory of Features includes information on cultural resource survey methodology, areas covered, specific site locations, and full site descriptions. This information is summarized in the Resource Element. Problems and policies related to the management of cultural resources are presented separately in the Resource Element.

Park Operation -- Consideration has been given to how the unit is now being operated and what alterations may be needed. Issues addressed in this plan include: fee structure, staffing, supervision, interpretive programs, and maintenance. (The Operations Element has a detailed discussion of proposals relating to specific park operation. Also refer to the Interpretive Element for a summary of proposed interpretive programs that relate to park operation.)

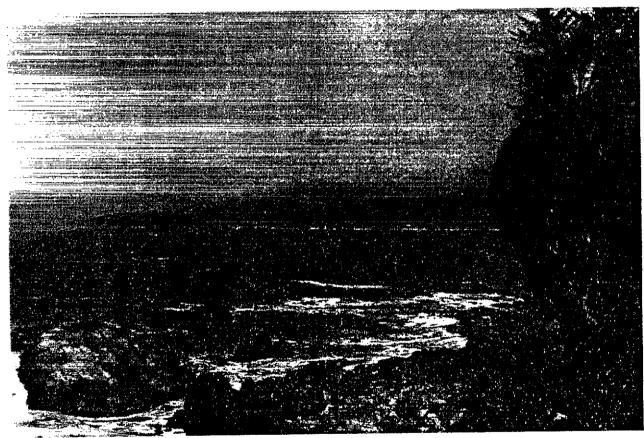
Interaction With Other Government Agencies -- The following four government agencies have their own unique concerns, which the plan has considered.

- National Park Service -- The southern extent of Redwood National Park along Highway 101 begins seven miles north of Patrick's Point State Park. Since Redwood National Park is a nearby provider of public recreation, information, and resource protection, both its existing and future plans have shaped this plan.
- State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) -- With Highway 101 passing along Patrick's Point State Park, interaction with Caltrans becomes necessary for future development plans. (See the Transportation Section of the Land Use and Facilities Element.)
- Humboldt County Parks Department -- Big Lagoon County Park lies near the northern end of the unit. Facilities there helped determine the type of visitor-serving facilities recommended for Patrick's Point State Park. The section on Adjacent Land Use in the Land Use and Facilities Element describes the facilities at Big Lagoon County Park.
- Humboldt County Planning Department -- The planning department is in charge of preparing the county local coastal plan (LCP). The Trinidad Area Plan (part of the county's LCP) includes policy statements which, to a certain extent, guide future development at Patrick's Point State Park. The section on Conformance to LCP in the Land Use and Facilities Element discusses how this plan relates to the LCP.

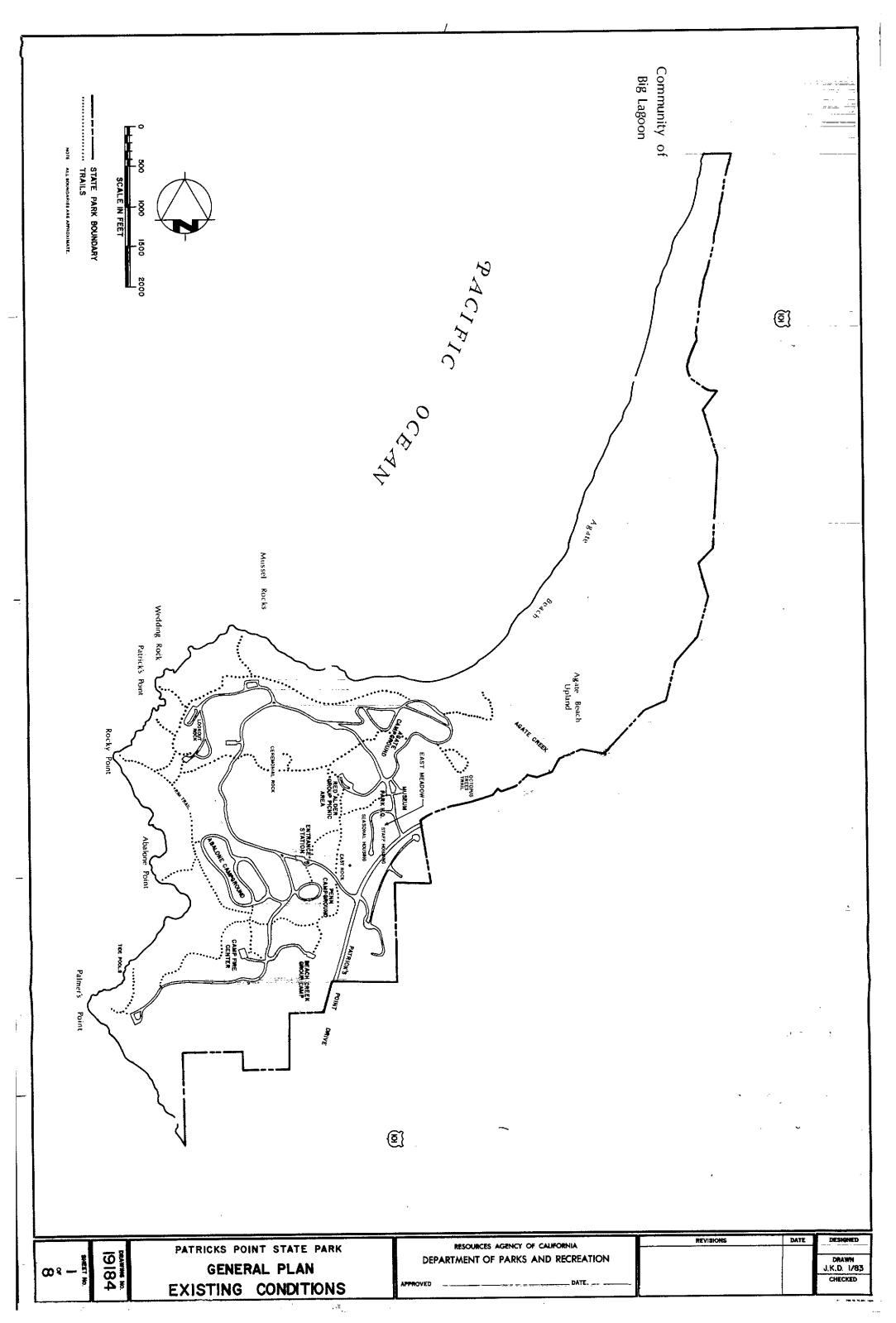
Utilities -- Water availability and sewage disposal were primarily determined through investigations of the natural resources. See the Utilities Section in the Land Use and Facilities Element for an analysis of required utilities.

Public Involvement -- The public involvement process played a key role in creating the plan. The process involved: 1) investigating the degree of existing public use and the extent of future use, and 2) determining concerns of local residents and visitors. The public involvement process and its results are outlined in the Land Use and Facilities Element section on Public Use and Concerns.

Design Criteria -- Certain design principles also have influenced the plan. These principles relate, for example, to: 1) the relationship between facilities, 2) visitor experience, and 3) the preservation of the unit's character. Design principles permeate the discussion of proposed facilities throughout the Land Use and Facilities Element.



View north from near Wedding Rock





# RESUURCELEERIN

#### RESOURCE ELEMENT

In compliance with appropriate laws, the Resource Element sets forth long-range management objectives for the natural and cultural resources of the unit.\* Specific actions or limitations required to achieve these objectives are also included in this element. Maintenance operations and details of resource management are left for inclusion in specific resource management programs that will be prepared at a later date.

Discussions about land not owned by the Department of Parks and Recreation have been included. These discussions are intended for long-range planning purposes only and do not represent a desire, intention, or commitment for acquisition.

#### Summary and Evaluation of Resources

#### Natural Resources

#### Topography

The terrain of Patrick's Point State Park includes a nearly level marine terrace, large rock outcrops (sea stacks) in the surf zone and on the terrace, moderately sloping hills, steep ocean-facing cliffs, and a sandy beach.

The marine terrace is about 200 feet (60 meters) in elevation. It is dissected by three minor perennial streams, Agate Creek, Penn Creek, and Beach Creek. Substantial portions of the terrace are so flat that watershed boundaries are indistinguishable.

On the terrace, along a northwest-southeast line, is a series of rock outcrops (or sea stacks), remnants from a higher sea level. The largest outcrop, Ceremonial Rock, rises nearly vertically 107 feet (32 meters) above the terrace to a height of 287 feet (86 meters). Lookout Rock, with an approximate elevation of 250 feet (75 meters), is the other large outcrop on the terrace. Several smaller outcrops also occur here.

Moderately sloping hills are located above Agate Beach, ranging in elevation from about 200 feet (60 meters) near the cliff edge to 500 feet (150 meters) near the park's eastern boundary.

The broad sandy beach at Agate Beach begins at the base of the terrace's northern edge and extends northward 8,250 feet (2,475 meters) to the park boundary. Total ocean frontage in the park is 20,100 feet (6,030 meters).

<sup>\*</sup>This Resource Element was prepared to meet requirements set forth in Section 5002.2, Subsection (b) of Division 5, Chapter 1 of the Public Resources Code and Chapter 1, Section 4332 of Title 14 of the California Administrative Code.

#### Climate

The climate is Mediterranean, dominated by the marine weather patterns of the Pacific Ocean. High humidity prevails throughout the year. Monthly mean temperatures along the coast vary only  $10^{\circ}F$  ( $5^{\circ}C$ ) from summer to winter. Minimum temperatures of  $32^{\circ}F$  ( $0^{\circ}C$ ) or lower are experienced throughout the area. Maximum readings for the year rarely exceed  $80^{\circ}F$  ( $26^{\circ}C$ ).

Average annual precipitation is about 63 inches (157 cm), most of it rainfall during the winter in association with large storm systems. Snowfall is rare. Occasional summer thunderstorms produce some rainfall.

Winds are predominately from the north or northwest during the dry summer season. During the wet winter season, winds are usually from the south or southwest.

Fog and low cloudiness are common during the summer along the coast, usually clearing by mid-afternoon.

Cool summer temperatures are a major attraction for park visitors seeking to escape the heat of the state's interior valleys.

#### Hydro logy

There are five watersheds lying partly within Patrick's Point State Park. All have one predominant stream. The total area of the watersheds is 1,989 acres (815 hectares), of which 602 acres (247 hectares) are in the park. Land uses in the watersheds outside the park are primarily second-growth forest production and some rural residences.

Three of the streams flowing through the park are perennial: Beach Creek, Penn Creek, and Agate Creek. The largest individual watershed is Agate Creek covering 581 acres (238 hectares). Penn Creek drains 471 acres (193 hectares), and Beach Creek drains 310 acres (127 hectares).

Penn Creek supplies the park's water system, which includes a water treatment system and a 60,000-gallon (228,000-liter) redwood water tank. The park uses about 2.5 million gallons (9.5 million liters) of water per year.

#### Geology

The bedrock geology of Patrick's Point State Park is Franciscan. The major lithologic unit is Franciscan melange, which consists of a mixture of blocks of rock that "float" in an intensely sheared matrix of fine-grained rocks. The blocks consist of boulders ranging in diameter from less than a meter to over a kilometer, including graywacke, sandstone, shale, and chert. The matrix material can undergo very large permanent deformation without fracturing. Matrix zones are inherently weak and are subject to weathering and landslides.

The Franciscan rocks are ancient trench deposits and associated oceanic crust that have been carried down a subduction zone where irregular folding, mixing, and low temperature—high pressure metamorphism occurred. The Franciscan rocks

are hypothesized to have been scraped off the ocean floor and jammed onto the continent as the sea floor crust underrode the more bouyant continental crust. This collision of ocean floor and continent occurred about 100-150 million years ago.

The Franciscan bedrock materials are overlain by marine terrace deposits, primarily marine sands. The terrace was formed by ocean wave action when the sea level was at a relatively higher elevation during the recent geological past (during the Pleistocene). Abrasion associated with ocean waves and currents typically forms a seaward-sloping platform. The current terrace elevation, well above the surf line, is due to the combined effects of worldwide sea level fluctuations and regional tectonic uplift. During the Pleistocene, the sea level fluctuated widely depending on the amount of the world's water supply that was in the form of terrestrial ice. Low sea levels are associated with periods of glaciation (ice ages). Tectonic uplift has raised the terrace about 1.2 mm/year. It is believed that the terrace in the park was formed about 82,000 years ago.

The bluff behind Agate Beach is composed of terrace sands and other marine sands and clays, and is partially capped by vegetated sand dunes. The sand dunes were formed by wind transport of beach sands. The entire bluff is composed of poorly consolidated sands and marine deposits. These materials are unstable on steep slopes and quite susceptible to landsliding and wind and water erosion. Historic accounts report that storm wave action sometimes removed the sand from Agate Beach, exposing the unstable cliffs to direct ocean wave attack, undercutting the cliffs and causing landslides.

This area of California is seismically active. Twenty earthquakes with a magnitude of 6.0 or greater have occurred in north coastal California since 1871 (Kilbourne, 1981). The most recent was a 7.0 magnitude event on November 8, 1980, which destroyed a Highway 101 overpass near Humboldt Bay, cracked chimneys, broke window glass at the Big Lagoon subdivision, and caused liquifaction on Big Lagoon barrier beach.

#### Soils

Soils information for Patrick's Point State Park is limited. No comprehensive soil survey has been completed in the vicinity. Two soil series, the Hely and Toniti, have been mapped in the unit by the California Department of Forestry's Soil-Vegetation Survey. These soils are deep, well-drained loams formed in place. The parent material is sand dunes. Both soils occur within the park on the sloping hills east of the Agate Beach bluff.

The remainder of the park is identified in the soil-vegetation survey as having "unclassified secondary soils on terraces and beaches." These soils have loamy surface layers. The parent material is sand. They are all acid soils, probably formed under coniferous forest.

Additional survey work is needed to determine the land use limitations of park soils.

#### Plant Life

Most plant life in the vicinity experienced large-scale manipulation before state park acquisition. The relatively level terrace land, now the site of campgrounds and day-use areas, was logged, burned, and cleared to provide for livestock grazing and planting of row crops. Current vegetation developed as plant succession responded to those historical land management practices. The meadows in the park are artificially maintained by mowing annually or biannually.

The terrestrial plant communities and associations of Patrick's Point State Park are outlined below:

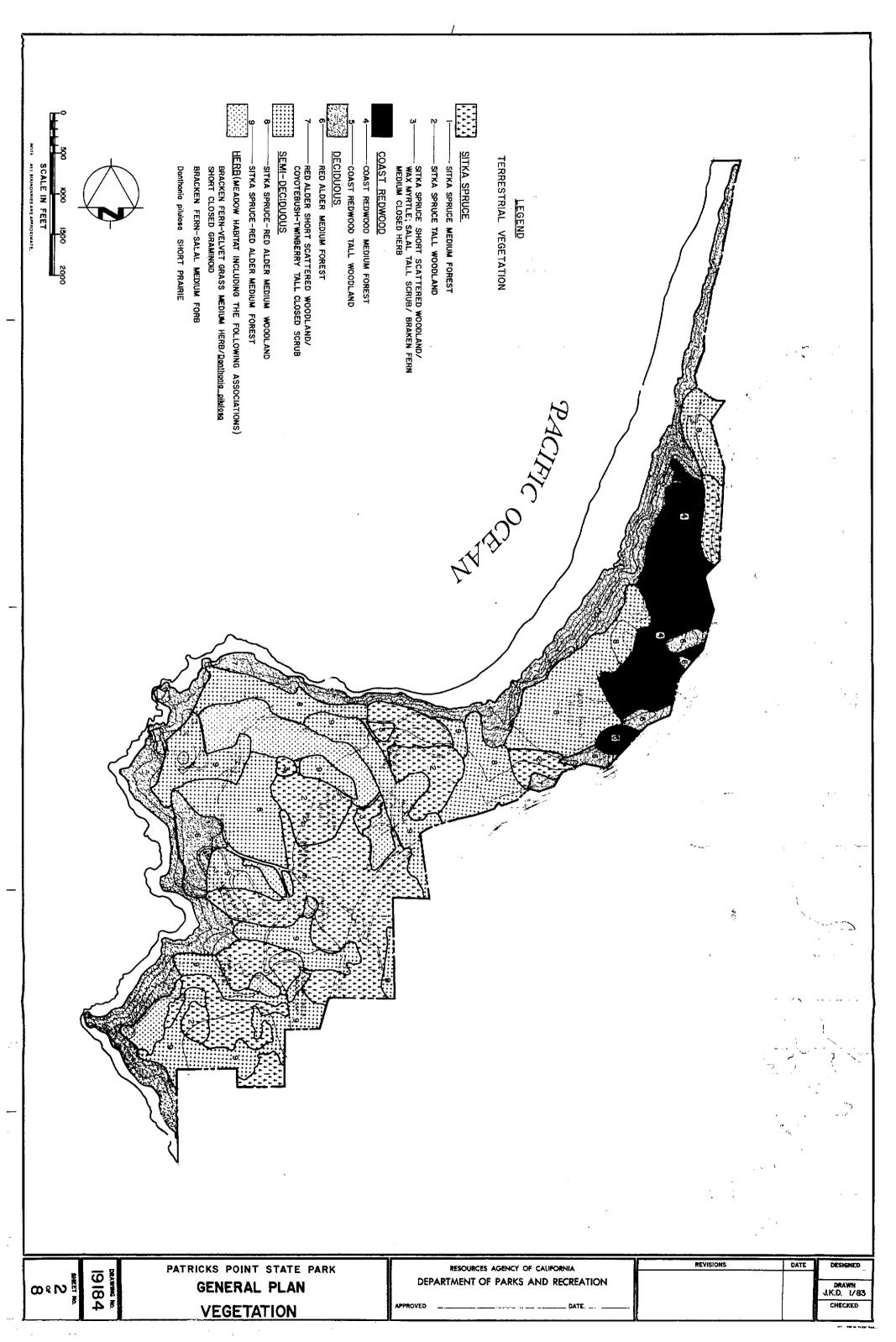
#### I. Tree Formation Class

- A. Evergreen Formation Subclass
  - 1. Sitka spruce medium forest
  - 2. Sitka spruce tall woodland
  - 3. Sitka spruce short scattered woodland/wax myrtle; salal tall scrub/bracken fern medium closed herb
  - 4. Coast redwood medium forest
  - 5. Coast redwood tall woodland
- B. Deciduous Formation Subclass
  - 1. Red alder medium forest
  - 2. Red alder short scattered woodland/coyotebush-twinberry tall closed scrub
- C. Semideciduous Formation Subclass
  - 1. Sitka spruce-red alder medium forest
  - 2. Sitka spruce-red alder medium woodland

#### II. Herb Formation Class

- A. Herb Formation Subclass
  - 1. Bracken fern-velvet grass medium herb/Danthonia pilulosa short closed graminoid
- B. Forb Formation Subclass
  - Bracken fern-salal medium forb
- C. Graminoid Formation Subclass
  - 1. Danthonia pilulosa short prairie

The dominant vegetation of the old agricultural fields, abandoned after 1929, is second-growth Sitka spruce in dense stands with sparse understories due to poor light penetration. The moist, shady understory of this forest is ideal habitat for fungi. The park attracts visitors who search for the wide variety of edible mushrooms that thrive in this environment. In areas within the forest and along roadways where light penetration is greater, dense understories of salal, black huckleberry, and wax myrtle thrive. The riparian areas support a greater proportion of red alder in the overstory and a wide diversity of herbs and shrubs.



The forest above Agate Beach is second-growth dominated by redwood. This area was not farmed but was logged. A catastrophic wildfire in the 1930s killed many trees.

The Sitka spruce tall woodland adjacent to Agate Campground is known as the "octopus forest" due to the distorted roots of the old-growth trees. This woodland community contains all ages of trees and has a diverse variety and quantity of herbs, shrubs, and epifites. It is probably the only forested pristine plant community in the park and may represent the only remaining example of how the entire Patrick's Point terrace appeared before the influence of non-native people. Other Sitka spruce tall woodland communities occur in the park, but they are probably even-aged stands, about 100 years old, that grew back after the area was cleared early in the Euroamerican era (1850-1880).

Shrub communities occur all along the ocean-facing bluffs, and on the terrace land that had been cleared and later allowed to grow back.

The meadows have a diverse assemblage of herbs, grasses, and shrubs. They produce colorful wildflower displays and provide scenic views of the shoreline and the rock outcrops. They are not natural but are artificially maintained by mowing. If mowing were to be discontinued, the meadows would eventually become Sitka spruce forests.

A variety of non-native plants grow in the park, including most of the wildflowers and grasses in the meadows. Eucalyptus and Monterey cypress trees were planted by early settlers and remain in the park. Invasive exotic plants, including pampas grass and scotch broom, also occur.

No rare or endangered plant species are known to grow in the park.

#### Animal Life

Animal life in the park is closely tied to the influences of the adjacent ocean environments. Pelagic bird life utilizes the sea stacks in the surf zone as roost and nest sites. The pigeon guillemot has nested in Wedding Rock, and western gulls nest on an offshore rock south of Palmer's Point. High humidity, heavy rainfall, and moderate temperatures associated with the ocean environment affect wildlife throughout the park.

Seven animal life habitat types have been identified in or near the park: coastal meadows, coastal strand, scrub, coniferous forest, deciduous forest, open water, and riparian. Characteristic wildlife associations are found in each.

The park is not known to provide important habitat to any rare or endangered animal species. The endangered California brown pelican can often be seen flying over and feeding in the ocean. The endangered peregrine falcon and bald eagle may occasionally be seen in the park.

Raccoons are the most often seen mammal in the park. They often scavenge food from camp and picnic sites. Black bears are native to northwest California and may occasionally roam in the park. Bears sometimes search for food in

occupied campsites, garbage cans, and around buildings. They can damage property and pose a danger to the public. Special precautions are necessary to reduce opportunities for bears and raccoons to feed on campers' food and garbage.

#### Marine Life

A variety of marine life habitats are adjacent to Patrick's Point State Park, including rocky beach, rocky shore, and sandy beach. The ocean environment is not part of the park and has not been studied. Tidepools near Palmer's Point support a rich variety of intertidal marine plants and animals. The California sea lion, Steller sea lion, and harbor seal use the offshore rocks as haul-out areas and feed along the shoreline.

Fishing takes place from the rocky shoreline. Fish are also taken by divers, although poor visibility often restricts diving.

#### Cultural Resources

(Please refer to the Inventory of Features for detailed information on prehistoric and historic sites and their locations.)

#### Native American Resources

Five Native American archeological sites have been recorded in Patrick's Point State Park. One of these sites, Hum-376, is a very small rockshelter with a midden that includes cobble tools. Two sites, Hum-119 and 241, were recorded as small shell middens located along the shoreline. Several survey records and one major excavation report have been completed on Hum-118, which was known to the Coast Yurok as o-le'm, meaning "where they camp." Hum-118 has yielded a wealth of features, artifacts, and information on the Native Americans of the area, including a radiocarbon date of A.D. 1310 for the early levels of the cultural deposit. A fifth site was selected by Coast Yurok people in 1981 as a location for the reburial of artifacts from Hum-118 that had been found in association with human burials.

Since it was recorded in 1969, Hum-119 has been destroyed by a landslide. An estimated 80% of the cultural deposit at Hum-118 was excavated in 1948, including all midden deposits down to sterile soil along the shoreline. The midden at Hum-118 gradually continues to naturally erode into the ocean.

In recent years, Patrick's Point State Park has become a center of cultural activities and ceremonies for the Coast Yurok and their neighbors. Brush dances, "Big Times," and other Native American activities have been held at Beach Creek group campground and the Red Alder group picnic area.

#### Euroamerican Resources

Two residential structures which pre-date Department of Parks and Recreation ownership exist at Patrick's Point State Park. One house is reported to date to circa 1890 (the Brooks' ownership) and the other to 1920, which would place the house in the period when a family named Smith owned that particular tract. Additional structures were added to the unit from 1934 to 1942 when locally encamped Civilian Conservation Corps members worked at improving units of the State Park System north of Trinidad.



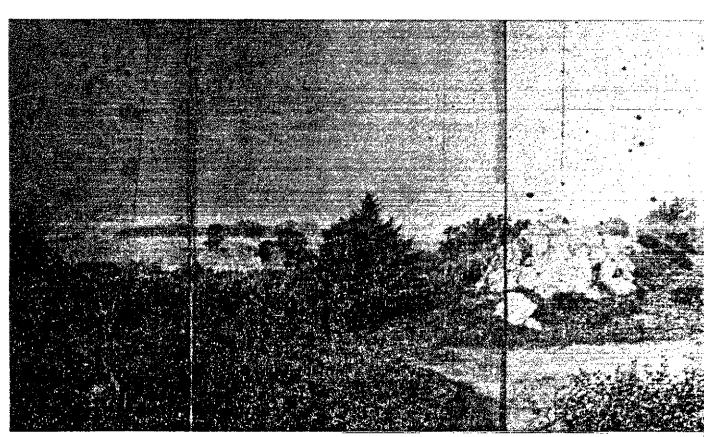
East side of Ceremonial Rock (now covered by dense spruce forest), circa 1895



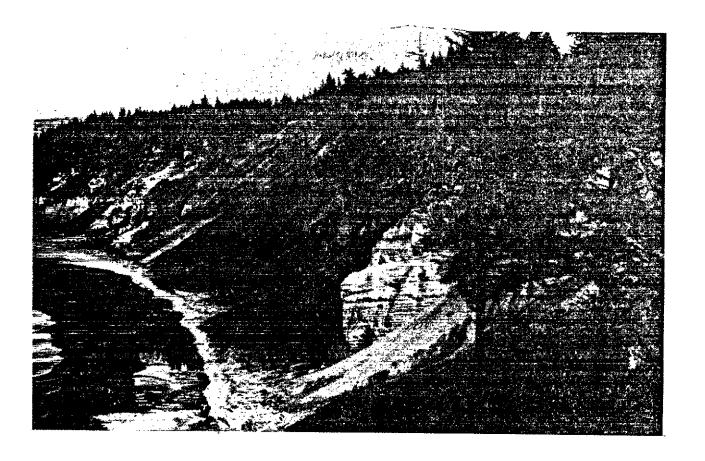
Meadow on west side of Ceremonial Rock (now covered by dense spruce forest), circa 1930. Photo by Newton Drury.

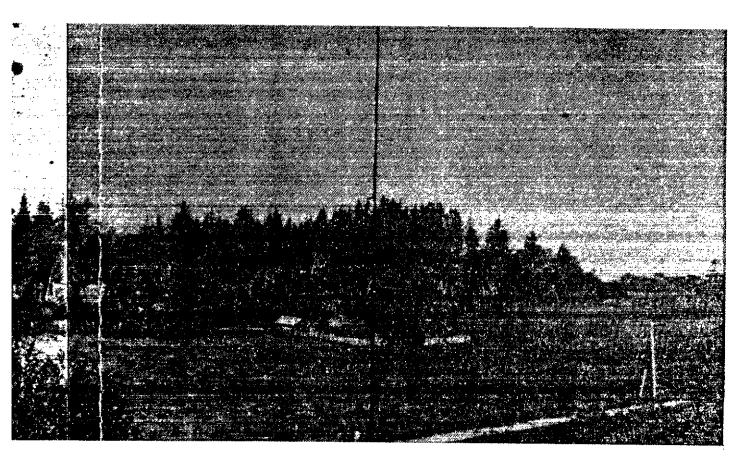


Panoramic view from Agate Beach Overlook



Historic view of East Rock, with East Meadow to the right (circa 1930). This view is now completely screened by a dense forest of 80 to 100-foot spruce trees surrounding East Rock.







Aerial view of the Main Meadow and Ceremonial Rock (1982). Wedding Rock is seen at the lower right corner. (Note the spruce forest, which has grown around the east and west sides of Ceremonial Rock.)

The two early-era houses are now used as employee residences; the older one was modified by the CCC crew during the winter of 1934-1935. These two farmhouses serve as a link to Patrick's Point's historic past. The CCC structures are now considered as part of the department's own historical use of lands acquired for public use.

#### Area History

Limited archeology in northwestern California has indicated a relative lateness of human occupation, with all but one site dated to within the last 1,050 years. A chipped stone workshop found at the lower levels of the Point St. George site in Del Norte County is the earliest known site in northwestern California, with a radiocarbon date of 2260+ 210 B.P., or 310 B.C.

The material culture of the early Native American inhabitants of California's north coast closely resembles that of more recent ethnographic peoples. The linguistic diversity of these people has not been manifest in the early technology or subsistence patterns.

Cultural elements of the northwest coast Indians included redwood dugout boats; plank houses with gabled roofs; woodworking tools, such as adzes, mauls, and wedges; twined basketry for several uses; steatite bowls and pipes; and fishnets and harpoons. Coastal villages were located on a lagoon or at the mouth of a stream. Interior villages were along a river. The diet of coastal dwellers included sea mammals, surf fish, mollusks, and waterfowl, while that of the interior peoples was more dependent on eating salmon and acorns. The cultural pattern included rigid codes of conduct, a lack of political organization, and an emphasis on property rights and the accumulation of wealth, especially dance regalia and dentalium shells.

The Yurok people at Trinidad (Tsurai) were using a few iron objects before contact with the Spanish in 1775. The Yuroks acquired Euroamerican beads and knives, probably through intertribal trade, after Hudson's Bay Company personnel passed near the area in 1829. Many Indians became wage-laborers in the gold mines after 1851. Some worked in related occupations, such as ferrying argonauts across major rivers. Since then, traditional material, social, and ideational culture has continued to evolve and adapt to Anglo-American society. All known Yurok villages near the Humboldt Lagoons were occupied into Euroamerican times. Most Yurok people continue to live in their traditional tribal area on private lands.

Who was "Patrick" of Patrick's Point? The most logical candidate is Patrick Beegan, who on January 13, 1851 filed a petition for a pre-emption claim under the articles of the Federal Land Laws of 1841. Beegan asked for "certain public lands situated about six miles north of Trinidad Bay in Uper (sic) California." A month later, Beegan bought out the claim of a neighbor (?), Nelson P. Perkins, and was supposed to have built himself a cabin near the Trinidad-Trinity Trail. Two years later, Beegan lost the land in a sheriff's sale. The new owner was William Thomas Wood.

The file on William Wood's ownership of Patrick's Place or Patrick's Ranch is skimpier than Beegan's. Klamath County records of Trinidad deeds reveal a few more purchases of land by Wood, and then nothing.

In 1875, Klamath County was broken up; the southern portion was merged with Humboldt County. The public lands were surveyed and opened to federal homestead or sale. An early settler on land in the present State Park System unit was Peter DeVault, followed by William K. Brooks and James T. Lee. A Trinidad merchant, William Childs, purchased his parcel in the northeast portion of the unit, while the remaining parcel in the area of Abalone Point and Palmer's Point was homesteaded by Leroy A. Palmer. A name locally associated with Patrick's Point is Thomas B. Riley. (There may have been two Thomas Rileys in the area.) Riley did claim land in the area (1876-1890), but his claim was not part of what is today Patrick's Point State Park.

The settlers farmed, looking to any type of crop or animal husbandry which would produce a source of income. Palmer may have indulged in prospecting for mineral assets but the evidence is meager. Depressions in the landscape, reputed to be traces of mining attempts, have also been credited to romantics looking for Beegan's "hidden jars of gold coins." One mining speculator did indeed buy up the Palmer place with intentions to mine and ship the ore to a smelter by means of a cable landing to be located at Abalone Cove. The effort failed and the parcel passed into the hands of the senior investor.

The early 20th century saw the original settlers passing the land to heirs or selling out. The land demanded much from the farmers and gave little in return. Many of the younger generation turned elsewhere for a livelihood, either departing from farming or renting their property to others for dairies or sheep pasturage.

With the creation of the State Parks Commission and voter approval of the 1928 Park Bond, a search began to find suitable land. The searchers went north in the summer of 1929, and beginning that fall, the Parks Commission began the formation of the first park system unit purchased under the new system. Land was acquired for the next several years, usually from willing sellers. The unit's first custodian was Viggo Anderson, who was sponsored in the position by Newton B. Drury, a member of the State Parks Commission. Anderson found that many of the local farmers were still using the structures on their former holdings. As they departed, Anderson cleared the ground and burned barns and outbuildings. Apparently, only two structures survived from pre-park ownership. These structures, apparently built in 1890 and 1920, have been modified and are used as staff residences. The older residence was modified during the winter of 1934-35 by the federal Civilian Conservation Corps. CCC members also helped shape the park into a favored recreational area.

From time to time, additional land has been added, most recently the "Hunter Property," which brought a portion of the original DeVault homestead into the State Park System.

#### Recreational Resources

Patrick's Point State Park is one of the most popular State Park System units on the northern California coast. People come from throughout the nation to enjoy its camping opportunities. Local residents enjoy the park for picnicking and related day-use activities. There are 123 family campsites, a group campground, 20-walk-in/bicycle sites, 43 picnic sites, and a group picnic area. In the last few years, Yurok people have held ceremonial "Big Times," including brush dances and barbecues at Beach Creek group campground and the Red Alder group picnic area.

In addition to picnicking and camping, the park offers these other recreational opportunities:

- -- Hiking on 6 miles of trails.
- -- Beachcombing on Agate Beach, including searching for driftwood and agates.
- -- Fishing from the rocky shoreline or sandy beach.
- -- Exploring tidepools near Palmer's Point.
- -- Rock climbing on Ceremonial Rock.
- -- Bicycling along park roads and trails.
- -- Nature study at the park's natural history museum.
- -- Participating in ranger-led campfire programs and nature walks.
- -- Relaxation in a quiet, beautiful setting.

#### Esthetic Resources

Patrick's Point State Park is an esthetic resource of statewide and perhaps national significance. The beauty of the park is due to a diversity of natural features that form striking contrasts. The dark, cool forests, warm, sunlit meadows, loud, crashing surf, distant shoreline views, striking wildflower displays, and impressive rock outcrops are outstanding esthetic features.

Views of the surf from Wedding Rock and Patrick's Point are outstanding. The overlook atop Ceremonial Rock offers a commanding view of the park. The view of the coastline from the edge of the Agate Campground looking north is spectacular. From this vantage point, one can see the impressive vertical cliffs above Agate Beach, Agate Beach itself, Big Lagoon, and the distant shoreline and ocean.

#### Resource Policy Formation

#### Classification

Patrick's Point State Park has been a unit of the State Park System since 1929. The unit was classified as a state park by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in September 1962. Portions of the Public Resources Code definition of a state park that are pertinent to general planning efforts are as follows:

Section 5019.53. Each state park shall be managed as a composite whole in order to restore, protect, and maintain its native environmental complexes to the extent compatible with the primary purpose for which the park was established.

Improvements undertaken within state parks shall be for the purpose of making the areas available for public enjoyment and education in a manner consistent with the preservation of natural, scenic, cultural, and ecological values for present and future generations. Improvements may be undertaken to provide for recreational activities including, but not limited to, camping, picnicking, sightseeing, nature study, hiking, and horseback riding, so long as such improvements involve no major modification of lands, forests, or waters. Improvements which do not directly enhance the public's enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological values of the resource, which are attractions in themselves, or which are otherwise available to the public in a reasonable distance outside the park, shall not be undertaken within state parks.

State parks may be established in either the terrestrial or underwater environments of the state.

#### Declaration of Purpose

The State Park and Recreation Commission approved a declaration of purpose for Patrick's Point State Park on July 19, 1964 as follows:

The purpose of Patrick's Point State Park is to make available to people forever the outstanding rocky headland comprising Patrick's Point, together with its adjacent beaches, its forested upland, and the subclimax condition of vegetation in certain forest openings characterized by wildflower displays; including related ecological values and all scenic, historic, scientific, and recreational values and resources of the area.

The function of the Division of Beaches and Parks at Patrick's Point State Park is to execute a program for the management, protection, and perpetuation of the varied resources of the park, in accordance with its declared purpose; to interpret these resources to the public; and to provide such facilities and services, consistent with the purpose of the park, as are necessary for the full enjoyment of the park by visitors.

A new declaration of purpose for Patrick's Point State Park is established as part of this Resource Element as follows:

The purpose of Patrick's Point State Park is to perpetuate forever, for public use, inspiration, and esthetic enjoyment, an area of unique natural beauty and cultural significance including coniferous forest, rocky shorelines, sandy beach, meadows, and archeological resources. All scenic, natural, cultural, and recreational resources shall be managed as a whole, preserving the natural beauty of the park in accordance with ecological principles.

The function of the Department of Parks and Recreation at Patrick's Point State Park is to ecologically manage the area's varied interdependent resources in order to ensure the perpetuation of the diverse cultural and environmental complexes; to interpret them effectively; and to provide, consistent with perpetuation of park resources, such facilities and services as are necessary for the public's full enjoyment of the unit.

#### Zone of Primary Interest

The zone of primary interest is that area in which the department would like to influence use and development so that park resources are not seriously jeopardized or degraded.

For Patrick's Point State Park, this zone includes all land adjacent to park boundaries, the watersheds of the creeks that pass through the park, and the offshore areas adjacent to the park.

In addition, the department is concerned about all lands, no matter how far away from the unit, that can, through their use and development, adversely affect the unit's resources and features.

#### Natural Resource Management Policies

The management of the natural resources within the State Park System is governed by various statutes, policies, and directives. Section 5019.53 of the Public Resources Code is particularly applicable.

The specific policies from the department's Resource Management Directives that pertain particularly to the natural resources of Patrick's Point State Park are 5, 18, 28, 33, 34, 35, 43, and 47.

The following policies comply with the above regulations.

#### Slope Stability

The Resources Agency established a <u>Policy for Shoreline Erosion Protection</u> (September 14, 1978) that applies to planning, purchasing, and improving coastal units of the State Park System. The policy states, in part:

Development of the lands adjacent to large bodies of water carries with it an element of danger from wave action, which can threaten the safety of public and private property and recreational values.

It is the policy of the Resources Agency that the use of these lands avoid hazardous and costly situations caused by erosion and minimize or resolve existing problems. Only in those situations where structures or areas of public use are threatened should the state resort to funding or approving remedial projects. When necessary, projects should restore natural processes, retain shoreline characteristics, and provide recreational benefits to the extent possible.

The planning and improvement of parks and beaches should be done in a way consistent with protection against the potential erosion of the affected segment of the coastline, and any structures located in areas subject to erosion damage should be expendable or movable.

The ocean-facing cliffs at Patrick's Point State Park are subject to continual erosion as wave action erodes the base, steepening the slopes and making them susceptible to surface erosion and landslides. The cliffs adjacent to existing developments are composed primarily of resistant blocks within the

Franciscan melange and are relatively stable. Weak matrix materials also occur within the melange and where these materials are exposed along the cliff edge, landsliding has occurred and is continuing. Landsliding is threatening existing developments in at least three locations:

- 1. West of Palmer's Point meadow where the cliff edge has retreated to within 15 feet of the asphalt roadway.
- 2. Near campsite 60 at Abalone Campground where cliff retreat has forced rerouting of the rim trail.
- 3. Northwest of Agate Beach Campground where the cliff is within 20 feet of the roadway, and along the rim trail where guardrails have been constructed to protect the public from the active, nearly vertical cliffs.

Cliff retreat is a natural process which cannot be permanently halted. Efforts to prevent coastal bluff erosion are usually ineffective and often increase slope failures because the placement of materials on slopes increases the weight of the slopes. Riprap and bluff fortifications often destroy the esthetic qualities of the shoreline and the bluffs.

Policy: Coastal bluff erosion at Patrick's Point State Park is an ongoing natural process. Bluffs shall not be artificially stabilized. Minor work should be allowed to stabilize existing trails which lead from the terrace to the ocean. When facilities are threatened by bluff erosion, as determined by the department's geologist, facilities shall be removed or relocated. New developments shall not be constructed in a zone back from the bluff toe to a distance equal to the height of the bluff unless the facilities are expendable or movable or unless the department's geologist determines that the bluffs in a particular site are stable and warrant a lesser setback.

The bluffs above Agate Beach are composed almost entirely of poorly consolidated marine sands and some clays. These slopes are very unstable and are subject to large-scale landsliding when oversteepened by stream bank erosion or wave attack.

Policy: No development shall occur on the hills adjacent to the bluffs above Agate Beach unless the department's geologist determines that the site is safe from landslide hazards and that rates of cliff retreat will not seriously threaten the development during the expected useful life of the facilities.

#### Meadow Management

The open meadows at Patrick's Point State Park are important recreational and esthetic resources. Ever since the park was established in 1929, the need for an active vegetative management program to maintain forest openings has been recognized. The meadows have been artificially maintained by hand removal of trees and shrubs and by mowing. Current policy is to mow the meadows at least every year. (Small areas are mowed more frequently to provide grassy playfields for softball and other sports.)

The pristine state of the current meadows is unknown. It is believed that most of the area was once forested. The soils appear to have been formed under forest vegetation. A detailed soil survey may be able to determine the pristine state of the vegetation.

<u>Policy</u>: A soil survey for Patrick's Point State Park shall be conducted. A major goal of the survey shall be to prepare a pristine vegetation map of the park.

If soil information reveals that pristine meadows existed within the park in areas that are now forested, an ecologically based vegetation management program shall be developed to restore those areas to their pristine state.

Policy: The areas currently maintained as meadows shall continue to be maintained. After a pristine vegetation map is prepared, the boundaries of the meadows may be altered to more closely conform to the pristine state. Alterations to the size and shape of the meadows shall not be so extensive that the present esthetic values in the park are significantly reduced. No new meadows shall be created in the park unless the site was a meadow in its pristine state.

The majority of the herbaceous species in the meadows are alien (non-native). The practice of annually mowing the meadows may be favoring non-native species over natives.

Policy: An important goal of vegetation management at Patrick's Point State Park shall be to promote the presence of native plant species over alien plants. An ecologically-based prescribed fire plan shall be considered as a method to promote native species.

#### Ecological Burning

Fire is a natural process in the evolution of plant species and the distribution of native plant communities. Wildfire is rare at Patrick's Point State Park, but north coast Native Americans used fire to manage vegetation composition for thousands of years, significantly affecting the pristine state. Controlled burning based on ecological principles can improve the park's vegetative resources. Excluding fire totally can create unnatural vegetative patterns.

Policy: A prescribed fire management plan shall be prepared for Patrick's Point State Park. Experimental burns at the park shall be conducted and the effects on vegetative composition evaluated. If the value of prescribed fire is confirmed, a prescribed fire management program shall be implemented.

#### Vegetative Diversity

The process of plant succession from agricultural fields, to shrub communities, to young even-aged forest, to old-growth all-aged forest has played an important role in the park. The presence of each of the successional stages of vegetation present in the park is valuable for esthetic, interpretive, and educational purposes. The diversity also has

ecological value since diverse vegetation is generally more stable, more able to adapt to environmental changes, and less subject to catastrophic losses due to fire, disease, or storm damage. Without active management, an increasing proportion of the park will succeed to even-aged forest, reducing vegetative diversity.

<u>Policy:</u> A vegetation management plan shall be developed to maintain representative examples of the successional stages of native vegetation in Patrick's Point State Park.

#### Non-Native Plants

Non-native plants are a threat to native plant communities. Of particular concern are those alien plants which become naturalized, reproduce, spread, and displace native plants. Non-native plants of particular concern at Patrick's Point State Park include pampas grass, scotch broom, and the alien grasses which dominate portions of the mowed meadows.

Large alien trees, including Monterey cypress and eucalyptus, occur in the park but are not reproducing. They were planted by settlers before park acquisition.

English ivy is common at the park. It has engulfed several trees and is the dominant species on a portion of Ceremonial Rock.

Policy: No alien species shall be planted at Patrick's Point State Park. Management plans to control and/or eradicate pampas grass and scotch broom shall be developed and implemented. English ivy shall be removed from Ceremonial Rock and controlled elsewhere in the park. If reproduction of eucalyptus or Monterey cypress occurs, the young trees shall be removed. All alien trees should be removed, if practical.

#### Rare and Endangered Plants

No rare or endangered plant species have been recorded in the park. Since there has not been a systematic botanical survey of the unit, conclusions about the presence of rare or endangered plants cannot be made.

<u>Policy:</u> The department shall prepare a thorough plant species inventory. Particular attention shall be given to rare or endangered plants that occur in the area but have not been systematically searched for in the park. Any rare or endangered plants found in the park shall be protected and the supporting lands managed for their perpetuation.

#### Mushrooms

A variety of mushrooms and other fungi thrive in the cool, moist, and dark understories of the forests in the park. Collection of edible mushrooms is a popular activity. Fungi within the park are also of considerable scientific interest. The park is cited in scientific literature as the typical location for several unusual fungi species.

Policy: The department shall conduct a study to fully assess the park's fungi resource. A management plan shall be established to protect and perpetuate the most significant fungi populations and habitats.

#### Bear Management

Black bears, which are native to the area, occasionally enter Patrick's Point State Park. Bears can injure park visitors and damage their property in their search for food. Careful management of food and garbage by the visiting public and park staff can significantly reduce the food available to the bears and thereby reduce the incentive for bears to enter the park.

Policy: A bear management plan shall be implemented for Patrick's Point State Park to minimize food available to bears within the developed areas. The public shall be informed of the proper methods of handling food and trash. If a particular bear becomes a problem, destruction or removal of the animal will be carried out in accordance with Department of Fish and Game policies.

#### Cultural Resource Management Policies

The management of cultural resources at Patrick's Point State Park is governed by state statutes and department policies and directives. The following portions of the Public Resources Code pertain to the management of cultural resources: Chapter 1.7, Section 5097.5; and Chapter 1.75, Section 5097.9.

The following Resource Management Directives pertain to the cultural resources of Patrick's Point State Park: 3, 24, 25, 50-61, 69, and 70-72.

The following policies comply with the Public Resources Code sections and Resource Management Directives listed above.

#### Native American Resources

An estimated 80 percent of the cultural deposit at archeological site Hum-118 was excavated in 1948. The remaining unexcavated deposits, which have a high potential scientific and social value, lie buried in the upper slopes of the site. Natural erosion continues to occur, exposing artifacts, shell, and bone on the surface with some continuing loss of midden and materials to the ocean.

Policy: The department shall avoid undertaking projects that will accelerate erosion of the cultural deposit at Hum-118. If the upper midden deposits are threatened with loss due to irreversible erosion, then the department shall implement a resource management project to recover and preserve significant information and artifacts from that deposit.

The trail from Abalone Campground to Abalone Point crosses portions of the midden of Hum-118. Recommendations to reduce erosion along the trail and to restrict foot traffic across the site have been implemented.

<u>Policy</u>: The Abalone Point trail may remain in place for its recreational and interpretive values as long as it does not contribute to accelerated erosion of the midden deposit at Hum-118.

Many artifacts, such as harpoon heads and projectile points, are missing from accession number P-234 from the Hum-118 site. The collection was stored at various locations in Patrick's Point State Park until 1976 when it was transferred to the Archeological Laboratory. Three artifacts originally found associated with human burials were returned to the park in 1981 for reburial.

Policy: The department shall institute a program to curate and organize artifact collection number P-234 from the Hum-118 site so that its full archeological, interpretive, and social values may be realized.

The reconstruction of a Coast Yurok village has been favored for many years by local Native Americans, state legislators, the general public, and the department. This facility will play an important role in:

- 1. Providing a setting for interpreting Indian culture of northwestern California to visitors,
- 2. Providing a place for Indian people to continue traditional cultural activities, and
- 3. Preserving important elements of the Native American heritage that are unique to California's north coast.

Reconstruction of a Coast Yurok village on an authentic traditional village site is not recommended for several reasons, including poor access, incompatible land use in some areas for associated support facilities, and adverse effects on cultural deposits including recognized cemeteries.

Patrick's Point State Park, Dry Lagoon State Park, and Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area were surveyed for potential sites to reconstruct a Yurok village. This survey (and discussions with local Native Americans) indicated that the East Meadow area at Patrick's Point State Park was the best site available due to good access, compatible land use with other natural, cultural, and recreational resources, and a recent tradition of successful use for Indian-organized events.

Policy: A traditional Yurok village shall be constructed in the East Meadow area at Patrick's Point State Park, which is considered the optimum location for this development.

The development of facilities in a state park, permissible for a wide range of recreational activities, must always be subordinate to perpetuation, public enjoyment, and understanding of the natural and cultural features for which the park was established, and may not dominate the environment or be attractions in themselves.

Policy: The Yurok village to be reconstructed is intended to become a primary cultural resource at Patrick's Point State Park. The Yurok village shall be developed and managed as a historic zone within the park. Interpretation will be vitally necessary to provide an understanding of the relationship between natural resources and traditional cultural values.

Active participation by the Native American community will be necessary to plan, develop, construct, interpret, operate, and maintain the Yurok village.

Policy: The department shall seek the participation of the Coast Yurok and north coast Indian community in the management of this village.

#### Euroamerican Resources .

There are a number of archeological sites which were part of the farming and residential use of the land at Patrick's Point before state ownership. These sites, which have been difficult to pinpoint due to efforts by the state to eradicate them, have little historical value. Two current residences date to before State Park System ownership (circa 1890 and circa 1920), and there are also several structures built by the federal Civilian Conservation Corps between 1934 and 1942. These structures are now recognized as being part of the department's ownership history and have potential historical value.

<u>Policy</u>: Interpretation shall play a key role in enhancing understanding and enjoyment of the story of Patrick's Point State Park.

Policy: Farm or residential sites, when discovered, should be recorded and their locations marked on a map. This procedure will aid in determining settlement patterns during the period 1875-1931.

<u>Policy</u>: The two historic residences may continue to be used as residences. If a decision is made to cease residential use of these structures, they shall be professionally reviewed for potential further adaptive use or for use as interpretive facilities to enhance visitor understanding of early Euroamerican era use of the land.

Policy: Structures built by the federal CCC will be professionally reviewed by department historical and architectural specialists on an individual basis before any future adaptive use or demolition.

#### Esthetic and Recreation Resource Management Policies

#### Scenery

The view north of the coastline from the edge of Agate Campground is spectacular, an esthetic resource of statewide significance.

<u>Policy</u>: The view of Agate Beach and Agate Bluffs is a scenic resource of statewide significance. No development shall occur within this area that degrades this pristine scene.

The view of Ceremonial Rock from park roads and adjacent meadows is an important scenic resource.

 $\frac{\text{Policy}}{\text{managed}}$ : Vegetation surrounding Ceremonial Rock shall continue to be  $\frac{\text{managed}}{\text{managed}}$  to maintain views of the rock. The guardrail on top of the rock shall be redesigned to reduce its negative impact on the view of the rock.

#### Recreation Playfields

Two areas of the park are frequently mowed and maintained as playfields. According to the Public Resources Code, "Improvements within state parks which do not directly enhance the public's enjoyment of the natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological values of the resource, which are attractions in

themselves, or which are otherwise available to the public at a reasonable distance outside the park, shall not be undertaken within state parks" (Section 5019.53). The presence of playfields at Patrick's Point State Park conflicts with this section.

Policy: If significant detrimental effects occur through the maintenance or use of the playfields, the playfields will be eliminated. Recreation uses related to the park's natural resources will be given preference to activities on the playfields. No improvements to the playfields shall be made. No special events in the park shall depend on the playfields (such as a baseball tournament).

#### Allowable Use Intensity

California state law (Section 5019.5, Public Resources Code) requires that a "land-carrying capacity survey" be made before any park or recreational area development plan is prepared. To determine carrying capacity, the department determines allowable use intensities for the various parts of the unit. This evaluation serves as a general guide, indicating areas in which natural or cultural resource sensitivity will affect development planning.

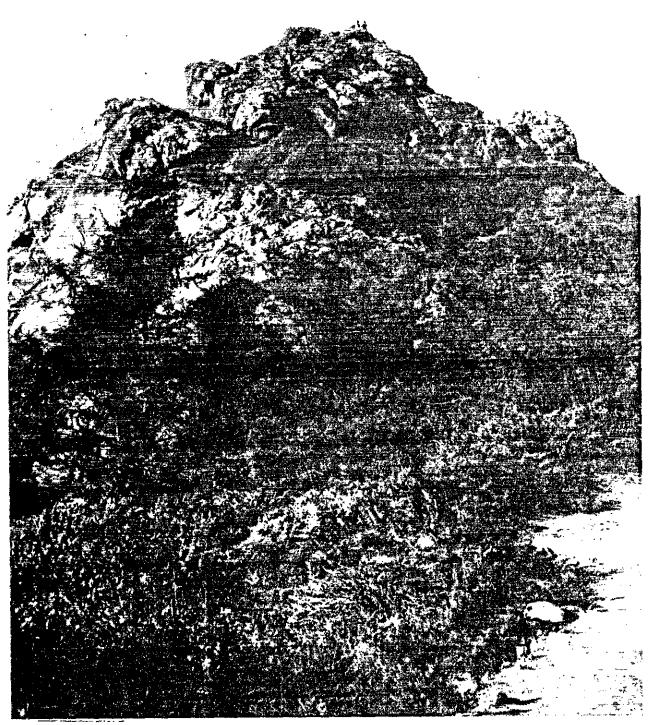
Allowable use intensity is determined by the analysis of three components: 1) management objectives; 2) visitor perceptions and attitudes; and 3) the impact of any development or use on natural and cultural resources.

The management objective for Patrick's Point State Park is set forth in the statutes defining a state park.

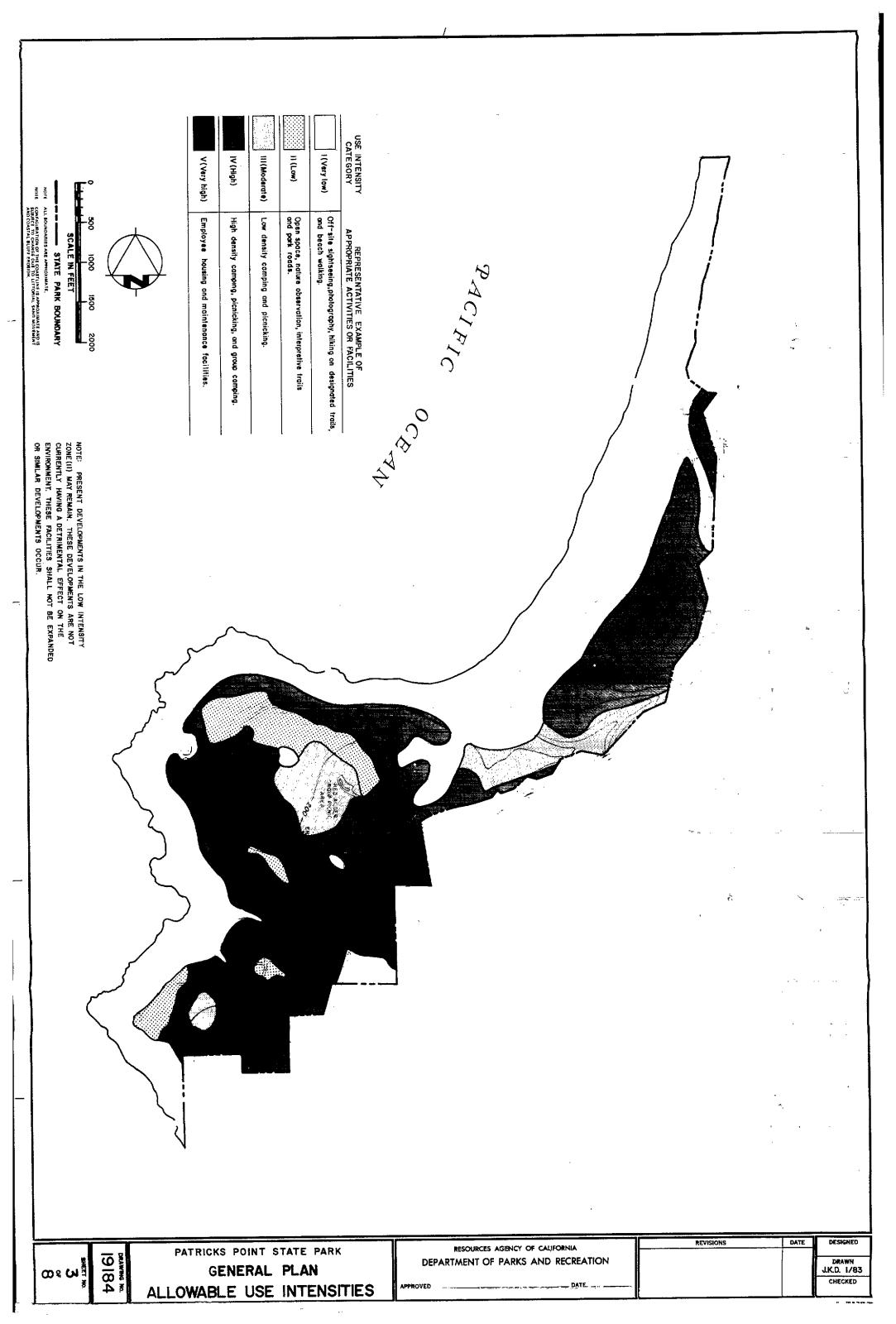
The second component, visitor perceptions and attitudes, involves assessing the social objectives of the department, what recreationists perceive as an acceptable recreational environment, what degree of isolation or crowding is acceptable, and other perceptions and attitudes pertaining to the quality of the visitor's recreation experience. Although these factors are very difficult to quantify, this component's influence is extremely important. State Park System planners must take a leading role in enhancing the public's awareness and appreciation of a high-quality recreation experience.

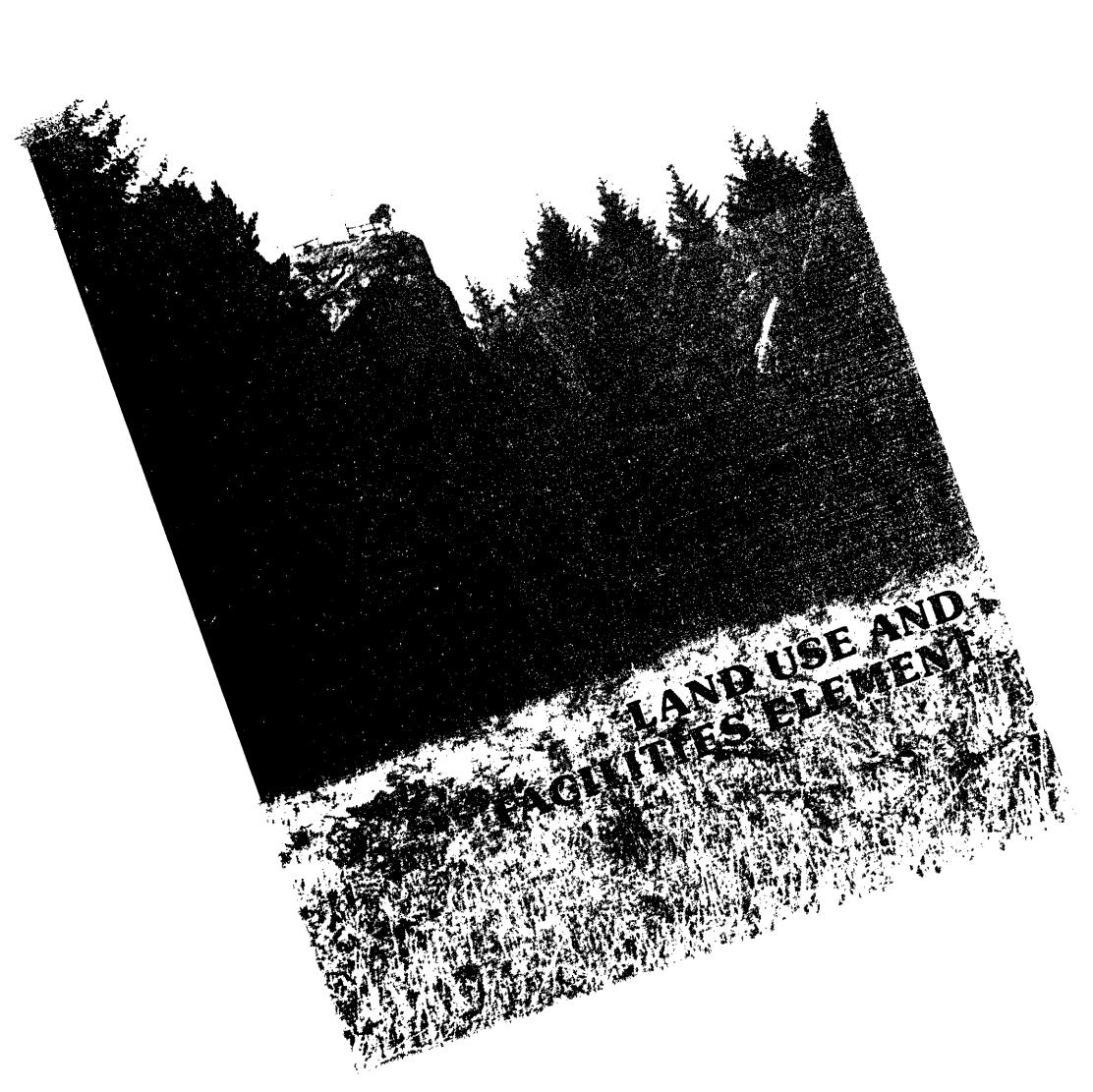
The third, and most important, component in determining allowable use intensity involves an analysis of natural and cultural resources to determine the area's physical limits for facility development and the ecosystem's ability to withstand human impact (ecological sensitivity). This analysis is based on a number of considerations including: cultural resources sensitivity; soils and their erodability and compaction potential; geological factors, such as slope stability and relief; hydrological considerations, including potential for pollution of surface waters, flooding, and for depleting surface and groundwater through water use; vegetation characteristics, such as durability, fragility, and regeneration rates; occurrence of paleontological strata; and wildlife considerations, such as population levels, tolerance to human activity, and stability. Additional considerations in determining ecological sensitivity are: rare and/or endangered plants and animals, unique botanical features or ecosystems, or examples of ecosystems of regional or statewide significance (marshes, riparian areas, and vernal pools).

Based on the preceding factors, allowable use intensities for lands in Patrick's Point State Park were determined and are shown on the Allowable Use Intensity Map. Five intensity classes, ranging from very low to high, are indicated. Also included is a general description of the types of activities or uses which may be appropriate in each class. Acceptable intensities of some uses, often regulated by the density of facilities, are also given.



Wedding Rock.





## LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

## Existing Land Use\*

Existing land use and facilities at Patrick's Point State Park will be discussed separately for three areas: the park core area, property east of Patrick's Point Drive, and the Agate Beach upland.

# Park Core Area

This area, west of Patrick's Point Drive, is the one most extensively used by the public. It is also one of the most scenic in the unit. The core area, which contains most park property, is bordered by private property to the south, old Highway 101 (now Patrick's Point Drive) to the east, and Agate Creek to the northeast.

Many of the public use areas at Patrick's Point State Park are surprisingly close to one another. The park is very intensively developed but, because of the dense vegetative buffer between facilities and the spiral alignment of the traffic system, the visitor gets the feeling of much space between facilities when, in reality, there is often little. The only major problem here is the tendency for the visitor to get disoriented. It is not unusual for a visitor to depart on foot from the entrance station and return in a short while, not knowing where he has been, where he is now, or what direction he needs to be going.

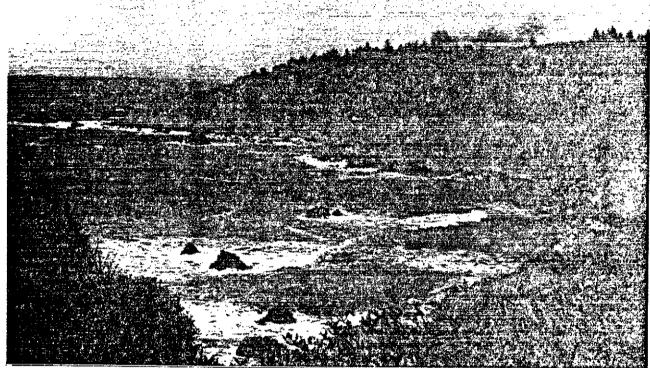
#### Palmer's Point

Palmer's Point juts out into the Pacific, forming the southwestern tip of the core area. Here, a 14-space parking lot has been constructed beside a six-acre meadow. From this point, the park visitor enjoys a spectacular view of the rocky shoreline to the south. A trail, improved in 1980 by YCC, winds down the cliffs to the tidepools below. With this convenient access, these tidepools are a popular destination for school groups and other park users.

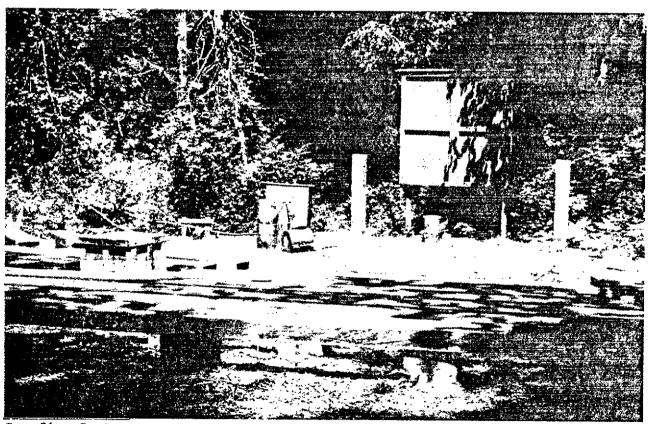
Inland from Palmer's Point is a level, 36-acre spruce forest which was purchased as an addition to Patrick's Point State Park in 1973 and 1977. This property is undeveloped and acts as a buffer between park recreational areas and private homes to the south.

North of the spruce forest is an area of extensive recreational development. This includes the Beach Creek group camp, the park campfire center, Abalone campground, and Penn Creek campground.

<sup>\*</sup>Refer to Existing Conditions Map.



View north from Palmer's Point toward Abalone Cove



Campfire Center



#### Beach Creek Group Camp

Facilities at Beach Creek group camp include a 35-space parking lot, a comfort station with showers, and a sheltered cooking area. Adjacent to these facilities is a two-acre meadow. The campground has a capacity of 150 people in a single group. This is the only group campground among state parks along the far northern California coast; as such, it is extremely popular.

#### Campfire Center

The campfire center is set in a shallow bowl, a short walk from a 34-space parking lot. The center is surrounded by a dense forest. Its curved lines of wooden benches seat up to 250 people. Campfire programs are held primarily through the summer months and are well attended. Programs would be held more frequently with an increase in park staff.

#### Abalone Campground

Abalone campground is comprised of 70 traditional spur campsites. Within the campground are three comfort stations, two with showers. Campsites vary a great deal: some lie among a forest of spruce trees and have very little visual separation between them; others, on the northern and coastal side of the campground, are set in an area where the spruce forest is not as dense. Consequently, shrubs have been allowed to grow up and act as an effective visual screen for camper privacy. This same campsite variety exists at Agate Beach campground; wherever the sun has been allowed to break through the overstory vegetation, shrub masses and visual separation of campsites have resulted.

#### Penn Creek Campground

Penn Creek campground is comprised of only 10 campsites, all radiating from a single loop. Within the loop is a mowed, one-acre meadow. On sunny days, this and Beach Creek group campground are the warmest campgrounds in the park. Campsites are generally well secluded from one another. The campground contains one small comfort station without showers.

#### Entrance Corridor

The existing entrance corridor, immediately north of Penn Creek campground, replaced the old park entrance road in 1959 to improve the intersection with then-Highway 101 (now Patrick's Point Drive). The original entrance road intersected Patrick's Point Drive at the outside of a turn, while this new entry provides better sight distance as it intersects the road at a straight alignment.

In relocating the park entrance, a new kiosk was constructed. However, the park office and park museum remain along the old entrance road. The entrance road gently curves through a dense spruce forest as it approaches the entrance station. There is parallel parking for three vehicles near the kiosk, and a turnaround loop is provided. Only 130 feet north of the entrance road is 40-foot East Rock, a formation known as a sea stack and almost completely concealed by the surrounding spruce forest. A sea stack is a rock promontory that has been landlocked as the ocean has receded.

#### Meadow

On the western end of the entrance corridor is a small meadow where the park road splits. The left fork leads to the southern half of the core area and the public use facilities previously described. The right fork curves through the spruce forest and opens out into the narrow 20-acre main meadow. The scenic value of the meadow is significant and is maintained through annual or biannual mowing. Without a repeated maintenance program, this main meadow could quickly disappear under a canopy of alder trees.

#### Ceremonial Rock

Towering along the inland edge of the meadow is Ceremonial Rock. The top of this 107-foot sea stack is accessible via a stairway cut into its forested side. The rock is also considered to be one of the best rock-climbing sites in the region. There are about 10 climbing routes up the rock (difficulties vary from 5.4 to 5.9). These are all non-technical climbs, meaning that bolts (or permanent anchors) which would scar the rock are not used.

#### Coastal Bluff

The coastal bluff top near the meadow is dotted with public use facilities. From north to south, there is: 1) a 20-space parking lot near the trail access down to Mussel Rock, 2) a 37-space parking lot near the trails out to Wedding Rock and Patrick's Point, 3) a loop road with 10 picnic sites, each with a parking spur, and 4) a hike-in/bike-in campground with five sites and a paved area suitable for parking about six vehicles. A 27-car parking lot is tucked within the spruce forest, directly off the main park road. This parking area is little used because the dense tree cover makes it undesirable on cool days, and it has no obvious visual association with other park features. Nearby, at the southern end of the main meadow, is a playfield, a popular recreation area, where activities include football, baseball, frisbee throwing, and "New Games" events.

## Agate Beach Campground

Along the northern side of the core area is Agate Beach campground. The 43 campsites are varied in character, similar to Abalone campground. Here, however, campers can more easily enjoy a panoramic view of the ocean and the northern coastline. Because of this exposure to the ocean, though, the campground is sometimes plagued by high winds. At the coastal edge of Agate Beach campground is a day-use parking area with a 25-vehicle capacity. Nearly all day-use visitors here have Agate Beach as their destination. A steep 1/3-mile trail winds down the cliff face to the beach. While popular for general beach play and driftwood collection, the beach's principal attractions are the many semiprecious stones (such as agates, black jade, and jasper) that wait to be discovered.

#### Trails

A network of six miles of foot trails runs throughout the park. Most significant of these is the Rim Trail which winds two miles along the coastal edge of the peninsula from Palmer's Point to Agate Beach Campground. The trail and its short spurs provide spectacular views of the rocky coastline and thundering surf.

On the eastern side of Agate Beach Campground is the 1/4-mile Octopus Trees Trail, a self-guiding interpretive walk showcasing the gnarled, exposed roots of ancient spruce trees.

## Red Alder Group Picnic Area

At the eastern end of the main meadow, secluded among young spruce trees, is Red Alder group picnic area. Similar to Beach Creek group campground, facilities here include a 42-space parking area, comfort station, sheltered cooking area, and numerous picnic tables. The capacity of the picnic area is 100 people. This facility is consistently popular for many group activities, including weddings and Native American "Big Times" events. Adjacent to the picnic area is a playfield which is popular for a variety of recreational activities.

## Operations Center

Directly to the east of Red Alder group picnic area is the main park operations complex. There are two maintenance buildings behind the small park office. Beside the maintenance area is the park museum, which contains displays interpreting the park's natural and cultural history. A paved area among these structures provides parking for vehicles used in operating the park. In addition to these structures, along the old entrance road are two wood structures which currently serve as staff housing. One of them dates back to 1890.

Across the road from the two permanent staff residences is five-acre East Meadow, which provides little, if any, public use. Two mobile homes, set in the middle of the meadow, serve as staff residences. Along the western edge of the meadow, six small cabins provide housing for seasonal staff through the summer months. A narrow strip of spruce trees screens East Meadow from Patrick's Point Drive.

# Property East of Patrick's Point Drive

The state owns 24 acres of land on the east side of Patrick's Point Drive. This area is not open to public use. Facilities include the park's water pump and filtration system, a water tank, a park residence, and a storage building.

# Agate Beach Upland

One of the most recent additions to Patrick's Point State Park is the 170-acre undeveloped property above Agate Beach. On its ocean face, its sandstone bluffs rise up to 300 feet above the beach. The tops of these cliffs afford spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean. Portions of the cliff are unstable and, occasionally, an adventurous visitor must be rescued while attempting to climb them. Above the bluffs, the parcel rises to 570 feet above sea level. Vegetation there is dense, with thick shrub masses and mature spruce trees. The watershed, east and south of the upland, contains both old and second-growth redwood trees. At the northern end of the upland, on fairly level land, a stand of large redwood stumps indicates there was once a major grove.

## Adjacent Land Use

Patrick's Point State Park is bordered by several roads and private residential areas, but none of the adjacent land uses greatly affect the park.

#### Homes

South of the core area are several private homes. As previously stated, the residences cause neither noise nor visual disruption to the park because the recently acquired spruce forest acts as an effective buffer.

#### Roads

Patrick's Point Drive, with little general traffic and hardly any truck use, causes minimal disturbance to the core area. The park property east of Patrick's Point Drive is not subject to high noise levels from Highway 101 because a hill separates the two. The same is true for the upland property above Agate Beach.

## Big Lagoon Community

North of the park is the community of Big Lagoon. While the presence of this community has no effect on the Agate Beach upland, it does have some effect on Agate Beach. State Park System rules enforced on Agate Beach are stricter than rules for the portion of beach controlled by the community of Big Lagoon (for example: dogs on the beach and campfires are prohibited by the state). This has been an operational problem for park staff and a cause of frustration for Big Lagoon residents.

## Big Lagoon County Park

Big Lagoon County Park provides both day and overnight use north of the community of Big Lagoon. Just over 400 yards of private beach separate the county park from state-owned Agate Beach. Throughout the year, the county park is most popular for day-use activities, and the campground is busy throughout the summer. A 16-space parking area and a comfort station have been developed. A concrete boat launch provides access to Big Lagoon for sailing, rowing, and fishing.

Many of the campers are turnaways from Patrick's Point State Park. Eleven tent campsites lie beneath a dense canopy of spruce trees on the park's eastern half. Six to eight recreational vehicles can be accommodated at an overflow parking area at the park's far eastern end. Potable water is only available at the day-use parking area.

# Public Use and Concerns

# Visitation

Visitation at Patrick's Point is extremely seasonal. Over 75% of park visitation occurs during the five months of May through September.

Of those visiting the park, 55% are day-users while 45% stay overnight. Camping use is limited because there are only 123 campsites, while no visitors have ever been turned away from the park because day-use facilities are full. From the last weekend in May through the first weekend in September, all three campgrounds are full on most weekends. Generally, the campgrounds are full every night from June 15 through August 30.

Through June, July, and August 1982, 2,719 vehicles were turned away from the park as the campground had reached capacity. In addition to these turnaways, a substantial, though untabulated, number of people are unable to obtain camping spaces through the Ticketron reservation system when the campgrounds are full.

On a typical midsummer day, campsites at Patrick's Point are filled by 11 a.m., earlier than other nearby state campgrounds. Fifteen miles to the north, the 75-site campground at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park is full by 2 p.m. Further north, Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park's 145 sites are full by 5 p.m., while the 108 sites at Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park are usually all taken by noon.

Overnight accommodations used at Patrick's Point include tents, motor homes, trailers, and tent trailers. The Ticketron reservation system reports that in 1981, 48% of campers used tents while 20% were in motor homes.

Many families return to the park annually, mostly because of the friendly atmosphere and excellent facilities. Many park activities are geared toward families.

## Group Camping

Besides the campgrounds and general day-use areas, the park also has a group picnic area and group campground. Each can accommodate a single group of up to 150 people. The group campground is reserved solely through the Ticketron reservation system. Like the other campgrounds, this one is usually reserved every weekend, May through September. Until recently, this was the only group facility in the State Park System along the Northern California coast. (Over 200 miles to the south, at Salt Point State Park, a small multi-use area was due to be opened for public use in the spring of 1983.) According to the Humboldt County Parks Department, a high demand for group camping continues on this section of the north coast.

#### Annual Visitation

Annual attendance at Patrick's Point has been erratic over the past decade. Visitation was steadily increasing up until the middle of the seventies. With the gas crises of 1974 and 1979, when prices rose dramatically, annual attendance plummeted. As of 1981, visitation was once again increasing (140,631 per year).

If traveling expenses do not increase sharply, visitation will most likely continue to increase. However, it is difficult to ascertain what future effects a gasoline shortage may have. Answers to a questionnaire distributed during the public involvement program may give some indication. When asked the question, "Would you continue to use the parks in the area if gasoline

prices sharply rise to \$2.00/gallon?", 62% of visitors from outside the area said yes, 14% said no, and 27% were not sure. Local visitors responded 81% yes, 3% no, and 16% not sure. (Note: At the time of questionnaire distribution, the price of regular gasoline on the north coast was about \$1.20/gallon.)

## Visitor Origin

	Day Use	Camping
San Francisco Bay Area	6% 12%	24% 13%
Sacramento Vicinity Other Northern California	35%	23%
(including local area) Los Angeles Area	29%	28%
(Southern California) Other California Out of State	0% 18%	6% 6%

## Public Involvement Program

To learn the scope of public concern for the future of this park, an extensive public involvement program of questionnaires and public meetings was developed. This program also provided public input for the general plan for Dry Lagoon State Park and Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area. A chronological summary of the program follows.

## Initial Questionnaire -- May 18, 1982

This was distributed to both local and touring visitors. Through the 190 responses, the planning staff learned how visitors use Patrick's Point State Park and began to see that the public (both local and touring) are most concerned about retaining the area's natural scenic character. A copy of this questionnaire, with the results, can be found in the Appendix.

#### Student Meeting -- May 19, 1982

Because Humboldt State University was between sessions at the time of the first public meeting, this meeting was held so that students could participate in the planning process. (About 30 participants.)

## Campfire Program -- June 15, 1982

The planning staff led a campfire program at the park to generate dialogue with campers. Generally, in a general plan process, discussion is available only with local residents. This campfire program allowed the planning staff to discuss the creation of the general plan with touring visitors as well. Campers expressed the desire that the quality experience they now enjoy at Patrick's Point remain. (About 50 participants.)

## First Public Meeting -- June 16, 1982

This was the first in a series of three local public meetings intended to gain local input to the project. Most of the discussion addressed Dry Lagoon State Park and Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area. (About 75 participants.)

## Response Sheet -- July 23, 1982

A compilation of the comments and recommendations received through the initial questionnaire, student meeting, campfire program, and first public meeting was distributed to the public. This provided a means to inform the public of comments the planning staff had been hearing. In addition, people were able to rank the importance of each comment. The returned response sheets gave the planning staff a more precise survey of public opinion. A copy of the Summary of Suggestions and its results are in the Appendix. (115 responses.)

Native American Questionnaire -- August 19, 1982

There have been several proposals since at least 1963 for reconstructing a Native American village somewhere in the vicinity of Dry Lagoon SP and Patrick's Point SP. This questionnaire was distributed to Native Americans throughout the area to help specify the scope of such a proposal. A copy of the questionnaire and its results can be found in the Appendix. (73 responses.)

Second Public Meeting -- October 5, 1982

The planning staff presented to local residents land use options for development at Patrick's Point State Park which were based both on previously expressed public concerns and on other guiding factors. Participants evaluated the options and expressed no major concerns over any of them. Most of the discussion focused on Dry Lagoon State Park and Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area. (About 70 participants.)

Native American Meeting -- November 5, 1982

One land use option is the reconstruction of a Native American village at East Meadow. The planning staff met at the park with interested Native Americans to review the feasibility of such a proposal. Those in attendance expressed unanimous support for the project and location. They also provided valuable direction for project implementation. (12 participants.)

Third Public Meeting -- January 5, 1983

The planning staff presented to local residents the key proposals found in this preliminary general plan. The participants generally supported the plan. No opposition was voiced by the 50 participants.

# Proposed Land Use

# Land Use Concept

Because of their close proximity, Patrick's Point State Park, Dry Lagoon State Park, and Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area have been looked at, through the general plan process, in a comprehensive way. A general plan for Dry Lagoon State Park and Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area has been prepared in conjunction with this document.

Dry Lagoon State Park and Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area will primarily provide a primitive natural experience. These units will be basically undeveloped while Patrick's Point State Park will continue to be the major provider of fully developed public use facilities.

Patrick's Point State Park is one of the most popular State Park System units on the north coast of California. It would be unwarranted to reduce any public use at the park. A high priority will be placed on maintaining the quality park experience which visitors are currently enjoying.

All existing public use facilities are developed in the core area west of Patrick's Point Drive, which contains some of the unit's highest scenic resources and allows for easiest public access. Development in this area should not include support facilities (such as a maintenance center) which are not necessary for visitor appreciation of the scenic resources.

The park core area is intensively developed, although the visitor does not get a crowded feeling because of the dense spruce forests. However, the road system spirals through the park, which makes visitor orientation to park facilities at times confusing. Visitor orientation needs to be better organized.

# Major Proposed Facilities

Major facility changes or additions will occur in four areas: East Meadow, the park entrance corridor, the property east of Patrick's Point Drive, and the Agate Beach uplands.

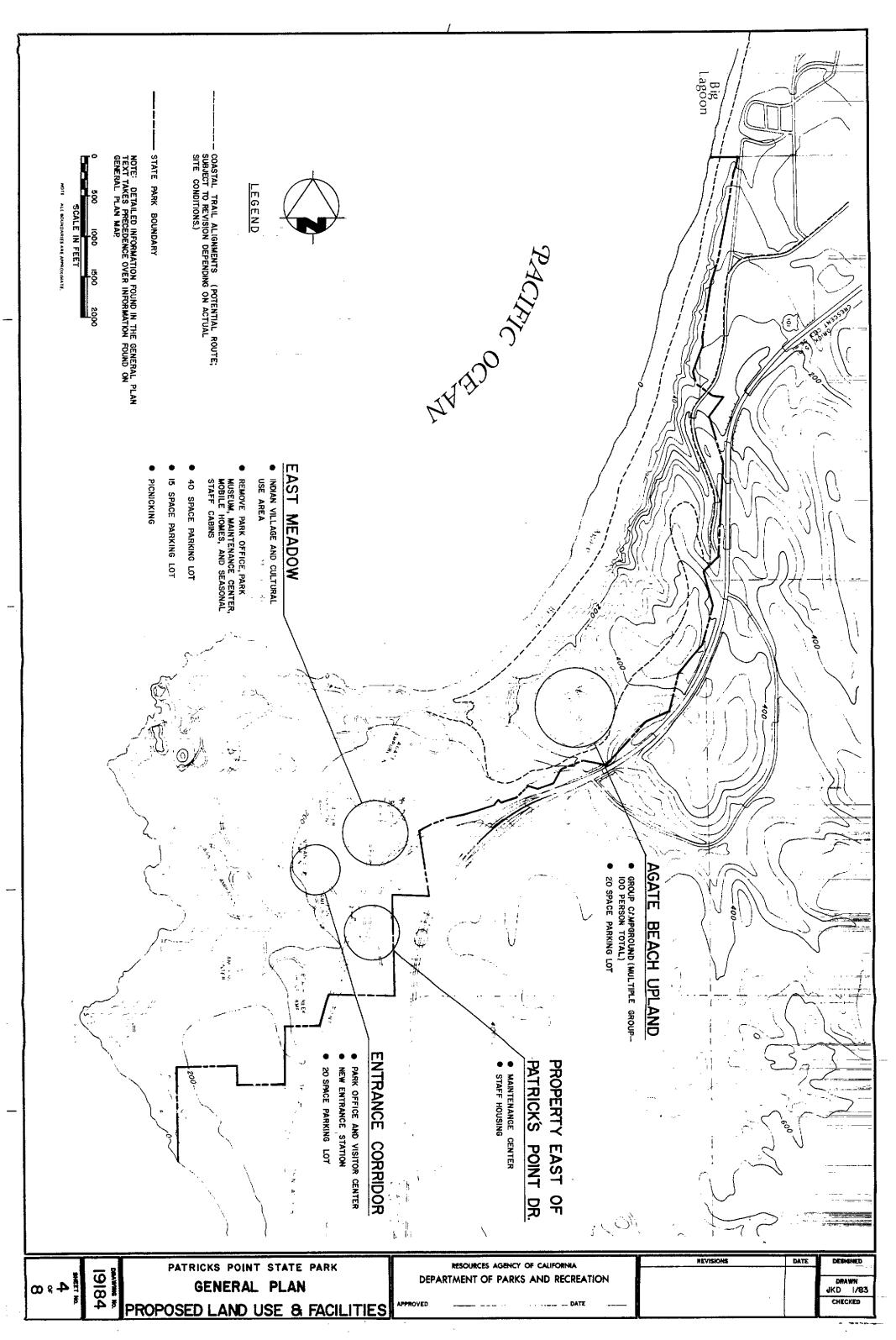
## East Meadow (Indian Village)

In a unit where much of the land is extensively developed for public use, East Meadow is the exception. This meadow is adjacent to what was once the park entrance, and it has always been the setting for staff housing. This is part of the park core area and, as such, should be set aside for public use.

## Facilities Relocation

The two wooden structures which currently serve as ranger residences will remain. Remaining support facilities, such as the maintenance area and staff housing (including seasonal staff cabins), will be removed and, if feasible, relocated to the property east of Patrick's Point Drive.

The park office and park museum will be removed from the East Meadow area, and similar facilities will be developed in the entrance corridor. (The structure housing the museum could remain, subject to the department's evaluation of CCC buildings, see Euroamerican Resource Policy on p. 42.) When the new entrance road was constructed in 1959, the park office and park museum remained beside the old entrance road. This created a situation where the park office and park museum are now in an obscure corner of the park, rather than in a readily visible location more conducive to visitor contact.



#### Indian Village

A Native American village will be reconstructed in East Meadow. This is not a historic village site. The impact of construction and heavy public use on subsurface remains preclude the use of a historic village site. The focus will be on use by local Native Americans and interpretation of their culture to the visiting public.

This site lends itself well to these uses since access, utilities, and supervision are all available. While the environmental setting is not entirely accurate for a typical village of the north coast area -- it is not close enough to water -- the village will be reconstructed in as authentic a manner as possible. Local Native Americans should be intimately involved in the design and construction of the village.

Types of public use at this facility will vary. First, the village will be a display which interprets the northwest coast Indian culture to the visiting public. The village could also be used as part of an Environmental Living Program for school children. Periodically, individual Indians may want to make use of some portions of the village for traditional ceremonies. About four times a year, Native American groups might use the facility for Big Times events. These two or three-day events can draw between 200 and 400 people (or more), and some ceremonies last through the night. This points to an advantage of the East Meadow location over other sites: it is remote from other public facilities in the park, and activities here are less likely to conflict with other visitor uses. Big Times participants should be free to engage in their activities without worrying about the impact on other park users. In addition, during the period in which 400 people may be entering the park for these events, separate access to the village can be provided on the old entrance road to minimize the impact on the rest of the park.

Because the village will be the site of various special events, including Big Times, the complex must also include support facilities to accommodate both the participants and observers. These will not be sited in the immediate area of the village and should be constructed so that they are compatible and unobtrusive yet not to be mistaken for traditional structures. These include places for visiting Indian dance groups to shower, change into their dance regalia, and secure their personal possessions, and places to prepare, serve, and eat meals.

There will be parking for the Native American village at three locations. For general public visitation, small groups of Indians, and the Environmental Living Program, parking will be provided near the new visitor service center at the entrance corridor. A section of this center will be devoted to interpretation of the village and Indian culture. Visitors will walk about 1,000 feet on an all-access trail through the spruce forest to reach the Indian village. This will provide a pleasant interpretive experience, help operational supervision, and reduce park traffic.

For Big Times events, participants will park in a lot to be constructed in place of the existing park office, park museum, and maintenance building. This lot will accommodate about 40 vehicles and also serve the proposed Agate

Beach upland campground. It is vital that this parking lot be heavily screened with vegetation. During the few times the two uses of the parking lot may conflict, group campers should be able to use the day-use parking area at Agate Beach Campground.

Additional parking will also be developed off the access road to Red Alder group picnic area adjacent to East Meadow. This 15-space parking lot will provide short access to the village for disabled people and senior citizens, and for unloading food and other supplies.

During Big Times events that exceed about 250 people, the Red Alder group picnic area will be used along with the Indian facility in East Meadow. This would raise the preferred capacity for Big Times events to 400 people.

Public use at the village should be monitored to determine the level and frequency of use and establish a capacity. If the capacity and visitor demand prove too large for available parking, an increase in parking should be considered, if the resources would be only minimally developed.

(Further discussion of the operational program for the Native American village is found in the Interpretive Element.)

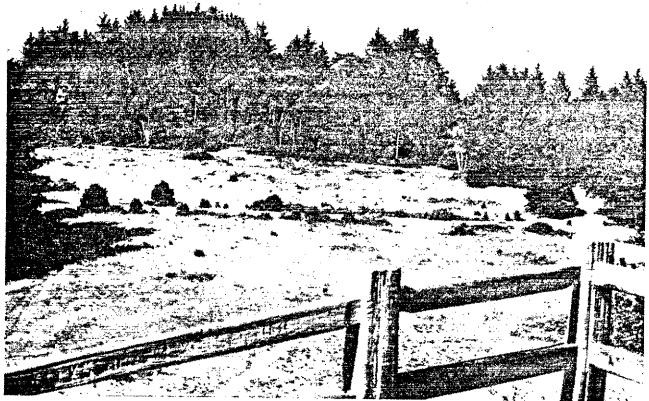
Entrance Corridor (Visitor Service Center)

The entrance corridor will be redesigned for more effective visitor contact and to provide visitor services.

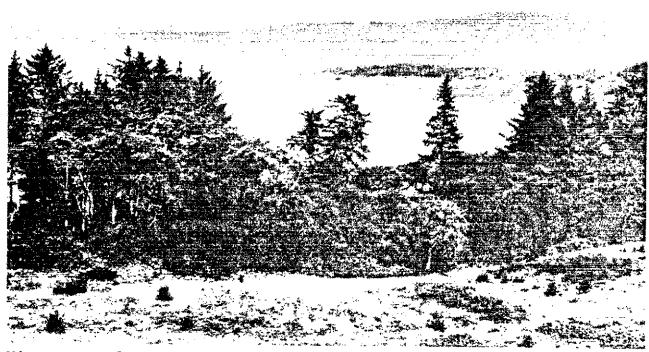
- A larger entrance station will be constructed, with a pedestrian walk-up window, restrooms, and water. The new station may be sited at a different location along the entrance road.
- The traffic system will be reworked and a 20-vehicle parking lot will be located there to also serve the Indian village at East Meadow. (A sewage disposal station for recreational vehicles should be incorporated into the road layout, unless the Department of Transportation installs a similar facility on Highway 101 at the nearby southbound rest stop.)
- Adjacent to the parking lot, a visitors center and park office will be constructed. These may or may not be separate structures. (The program for the visitors center is discussed in detail in the Interpretive Element.) The visitor service center and parking should be sited to take advantage of open space and sun orientation.

Property East of Patrick's Point Drive (Staff Housing and Maintenance Center)

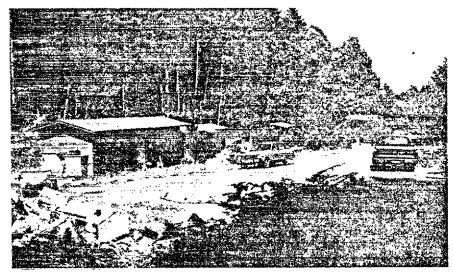
The park maintenance center and all staff housing (except the two structures near East Meadow) will be sited on the property east of Patrick's Point Drive. Substantial tree removal will be required for construction and to open up parts of the area to the sun to make it more habitable. Road and utility improvements will also be required.



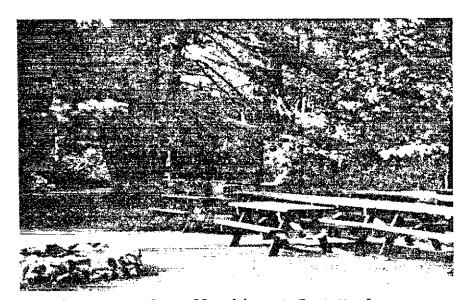
View of main meadow from atop Ceremonial Rock



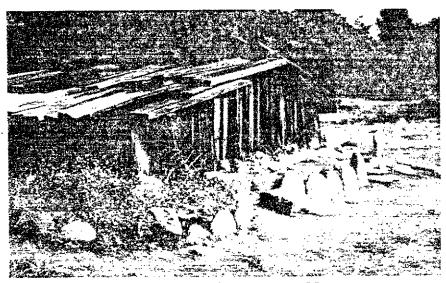
View upcoast from atop Ceremonial Rock



Red Alder group picnic area



Existing seasonal staff cabins at East Meadow



Traditional family house in Hoopa Valley

#### Agate Beach Upland (Group Campground)

This recent addition provides spectacular, high elevation (from up to 440 feet) views of the Pacific. In addition, the area has the potential for development of a campground without drastic grading changes. However, access to the upland is a problem. The most feasible route for vehicle access is up a very narrow traverse road, along the upland's southern slope. A second problem concerns the unstable sandstone cliffs fronting the upland. These have a history of retreating, so no nonexpendable development can occur within 500 feet of the cliff toe. A third limitation to development on the upland is its natural character. This is the most primitive section of Patrick's Point State Park, and visitors should have the opportunity to appreciate it this way.

- o Based partially on these considerations, a group campground will be developed on the upland's southern plateau. Parking will be limited to 20 spaces. Any additional vehicles will be parked in the 40-car parking lot near East Meadow. Group campers will either have to carpool to the campground or hike 3/4 mile to the facility.
- The campground will have a capacity of about 100 people, but it will be laid out to accommodate four or five separate groups (see Conceptual Plan). This will be a popular facility for the many large families that frequently use four or five contiguous sites at Agate Beach Campground or Abalone Campground. Some vegetative clearing and maintenance will be required for campsite construction.
- The existing traverse road will continue to be an informal access road but will be upgraded to provide a compacted, well-drained surface. If possible, this road should tie into the old entrance road near East Meadow. However, if resource protection cannot be assured in such an alignment, the access point will then be directly off Patrick's Point Drive and will be secured with a locked gate.

The access road should be laid out as far back from the cliff top as topography allows. If, in the future, the proposed vehicular access to the campground is undermined or threatened by cliff failure, an alternative access should be developed which traverses up the east slope of the upland.

- o The Agate Upland group campground will provide an isolated camping experience with fully developed facilities. A comfort station, with showers, will be centrally located among the camping sections.
- o The coastal bluff in the vicinity of the campground will require safety measures to keep visitors off the dangerous sandstone cliffs. An overlook will be developed to provide a controlled, safe view of the ocean. A trail to the rest of the park and Agate Beach will be by way of the traversing access road. There will not be an access trail down the face of the coastal bluff.
- o All improvements associated with this entire facility at the Agate Beach Upland will be sited and screened to avoid any visual impact on the view from the Agate Beach Campground and overlook.

## Other Proposed Facilities

In addition to the four major proposed facilities, the following proposals will be implemented to ensure the continuation of a quality park experience to visitors of the park unit.

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#### Trails

An extensive trails system already exists through the core area of the park. Some sections of the trail system need to be improved. In addition, a new signing program will help provide better visitor orientation.

The California Recreation and Trails Plan (1978) recommends "a Pacific coast trail corridor...from Oregon to Mexico, within the sights and sounds of the Pacific Ocean." One segment of this Coastal Trail will pass through Patrick's Point. It will follow the existing rim trail. However, more trail construction will be needed to connect this segment to the rest of the Coastal Trail. In addition, a new trail will be developed along the Agate Beach upland. Coastal Trail users will have the option of hiking on Agate Beach or on the uplands.

The trails will be for pedestrian use only. As an intensively developed park, Patrick's Point cannot handle equestrian use.

## All-Access Program

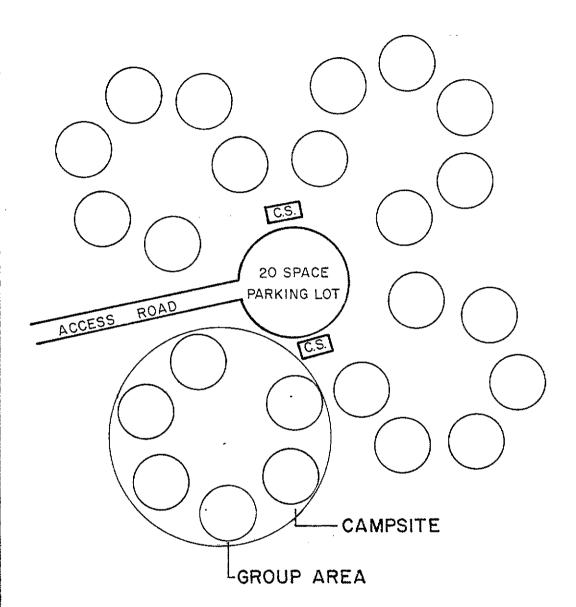
Statewide, the department is endeavoring to open up the opportunity for access to facilities or resources which have been previously inaccessible to many people who are physically or developmentally disabled (including those who are sensorially impaired). Patrick's Point State Park has the potential to become the showcase of accessibility in the State Park System. This will be accomplished in three areas:

- o Where feasible, existing structures will be retrofitted to accommodate wheelchair access. All new structures will provide full accessibility.
- o Portions of the trail system will be regraded, resurfaced, and redesigned to allow full access to all people. Full access trails will include: the Agate Beach overlook, a trail out to Patrick's Point, and a portion of the Rim Trail in the vicinity of the campfire center.
- o A number of existing campsites will be remodeled to make them fully accessible. In addition, the existing campfire center will be made accessible to the disabled.

#### Campground Rehabilitation

Many existing campsites will require some rehabilitation. Some of the sites lack adequate drainage and frequently flood. Regrading of these sites is required.

Other components of the campgrounds, including utilities and comfort stations, will also require rehabilitation.



C.S.-COMFORT STATION
DIAGRAM NOT TO SCALE

AGATE UPLAND CAMPGROUND
CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT

According to recent user figures, tent camping is apparently becoming more popular at Patrick's Point State Park. Unfortunately, there are very few sites in the park which can accommodate a large tent. Some additional campsites will be regraded and cleared of vegetation to better allow accommodation of tents.

Through the public involvement program, campers expressed their desire for secluded campsites. Where possible, the vegetative buffer between campsites will be encouraged.

## South Spruce Forest

The spruce forest at the southern end of the park, inland from Palmer's Point, will remain essentially undeveloped. (There may, in the future, be cause to construct a trail through the forest to complete a loop trail through the park.) This area serves as a buffer between the park's facilities and the residential area to the south. It is also important that this forest keep its primitive character since the rest of the park core area is so extensively developed.

#### General Esthetics in Park Equipment

Vehicular and pedestrian signing should be minimal, limited to that necessary for safety and adequate orientation. Interpretive displays should be low-level so as not to interfere with views. As long as safety is not compromised, barriers and fencing should have a negligible visual effect. Lighting should be screened to limit its effect on the surrounding area. In this secluded area, a single light makes a harsh impact on an otherwise primitive night scene, even from a great distance.

#### Utilities

Major utility requirements for the proposed facilities are: sewage disposal, electricity, and water. All four major areas of proposed facilities (East Meadow -- Indian village, entrance area, property east of Patrick's Point Drive, and the Agate Beach upland) will require full utility availability.

- o Sewage is currently disposed through septic tank/leaching systems throughout the park. It is probable that this method will continue to be available for use at the proposed developments.
- o Electrical connections are already available within the park, so there should be no problem extending this service to new facilities.
- O During peak periods of public use, water availability can be a problem in the park. An additional water source, such as a new well, may need to be tapped to supplement the existing water system as new facilities are built.
- o Where feasible, solar energy design should be used to the fullest in new comfort stations.

## Transportation

No major intersection improvements on Patrick's Point Drive are anticipated in association with the development of proposed facilities. A detailed analysis of existing and potential traffic and existing intersection conditions should be made at the time of implementation to determine what, if any, improvements are needed.

The private vehicle is, by far, the most popular mode of transportation to the park. However, alternative transportation methods are available. The bicentennial bicycle route runs down Highway 101. This route is becoming increasingly popular. With the completion of the Pacific Coast Trail, a number of people will also be reaching the park by foot. The existing walk-in/bicycle campground will continue to serve both cyclists and hikers.

The Humboldt Transit Authority, through its Redwood Transit System, currently provides service twice daily to and from Orick, on weekdays only. This route provides flag stops from Trinidad up to Patrick's Point State Park. Through the public involvement program for the general plan, there was some interest in increasing bus service to the parks. This was particularly expressed by students at Humboldt State University. With the development of the facilities proposed in the general plan, public demand for bus service may increase. The Humboldt Transit Authority should then be encouraged to provide more frequent service, including weekends.

The resources at Patrick's Point State Park are already popular with school groups. The addition of the Indian village/visitor center will likely increase school use substantially. Parking for this facility will be designed to accommodate school buses.

## Capacity of Facilities

Existing facilities at Patrick's Point State Park currently accommodate up to 1,689 visitors at any one time (1,032 day-use visitors and 657 campers). If all the proposed public use facilities were developed, the capacity of the park would increase to 2,039. This figure includes 250 additional day-use visitors who might be participating in a Big Times event associated with the proposed Indian village (150 more Big Times participants would use the existing Red Alder group picnic area). The overnight capacity of the unit would increase by 100 campers with the development of the Agate upland campground.

The allowable use intensity analysis contained in the Resource Element provided guidelines to determine type, location, and intensity of developments. Before specific proposals were determined, classification limitations, user needs and recreation deficiencies, and operational requirements were considered, along with the allowable use intensity specified for each area.

# Recommended Sequence of Implementation

The Indian village, the new entrance area, and the staff housing/maintenance area are interrelated in their sequence of development. These three proposals will work together to form a complete project which will interpret Native American culture and improve visitor services. Therefore, it would be most

preferable to develop all three projects simultaneously. However, if this proves to be impossible due to funding constraints, the first priority should be to relocate staff housing and construct the Indian village (including the picnicking facility and the 20-space parking lot). In addition, in this first phase, the existing museum should provide interpretation supporting the Indian village until the new visitor center is constructed. In the second phase of development, the maintenance facility should be relocated and the entrance area redeveloped (visitor center, entrance station, and 20-car parking area).

The timing of the development of the Agate Beach upland campground is not closely tied to the above projects. Overflow parking for the campground will utilize the parking lot which will also be utilized during Big Times events. However, on an interim basis, this overflow parking could occur elsewhere; therefore, development of the campground is not contingent upon development of the Indian village complex.

## Conformance to Local Coastal Plan

The Trinidad Area Plan in the Humboldt County Local Coastal Plan contains two policies which relate to the development and management of Patrick's Point State Park:

- 1. Proposed amendments to Section 3-25B of the LCP require that the development of the Native American village be closely coordinated with the Northwest Indian Cemetery Protection Association and other affected Native American groups.
- 2. The LCP also requires that the department implement a limited-use, no-fee access program which would be coordinated with area residents and the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors.

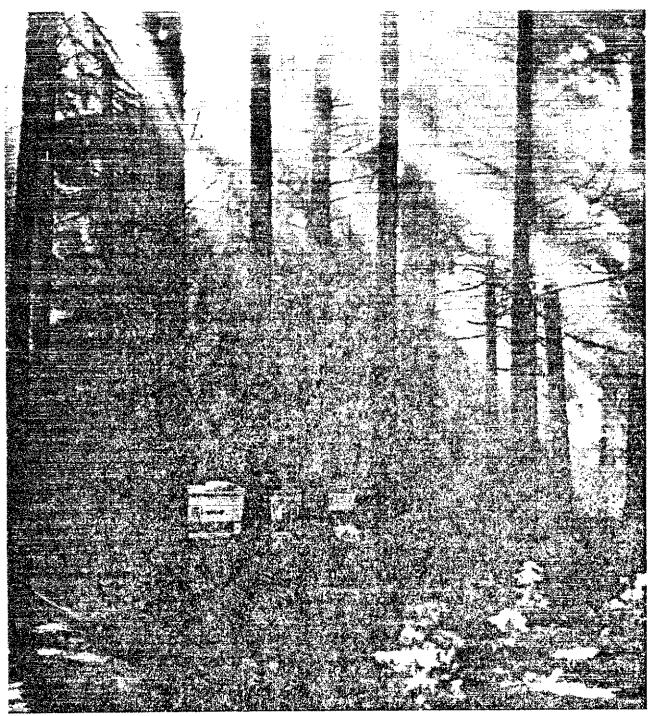
The Department of Parks and Recreation has addressed both concerns:

- 1. The department has worked closely with local Native Americans in the creation of the General Plan and will continue to work closely with local Indians in the planning and the construction of the Indian village. This involvement is vital to ensure an accurate depiction of a Native American village and to promote their future participation in cultural use of the facility (also see the Major Proposed Facilities section).
- 2. There is an existing department policy which allows short-term, free access into State Park System units. The department's park staff will allow continuation of this program at Patrick's Point State Park. As unit visitation increases, there may be periods in which traffic congestion may require a temporary halt to the program.

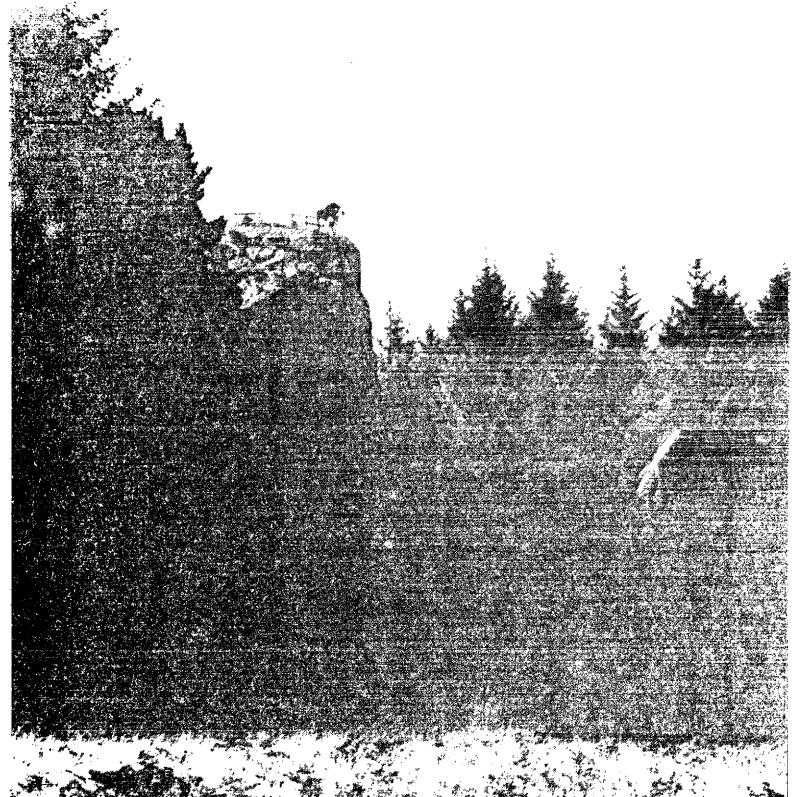
## Appropriate Future Additions

The park is well defined by its boundaries. There are no inholdings or adjacent land uses that are having a detrimental effect on park resources or visitor experiences. Park resources are manageable within the unit's boundaries. As long as the above circumstances persist, no additional land acquisition is anticipated.

The California Coastal Commission is obtaining easements from private owners along the Riley Creek beaches, south of Palmer's Point. This intertidal area has significance for scientific study. By obtaining easements, the commission intends to protect the public's right to use this area. The area is not developable. Once the commission obtains a contiguous easement, the department will consider accepting management of the easement. Access for scientific study only could be from Palmer's Point, but no formal trail would be developed.



Existing Agate Beach campground



# OPERATIONS. INTERPRETIVE, AND CONCESSIONS ELEMENTS

#### OPERATIONS ELEMENT

The daily operational routine at Patrick's Point State Park will not significantly change in response to proposals contained in the General Plan. Through the public involvement program, park employees have been complimented on their warm, personable interaction with visitors. This friendly contact with the public is conducive to a quality park experience and should continue to be encouraged.

With the development of the Indian village and the Agate Beach upland campground, additional staff will be needed. The other two major facilities proposals (visitor service center and staff housing/maintenance center) should not require additional staff.

It is vital that park staff work closely with local Native Americans in all facets of the Indian village. These include: ceremonies, interpretation, artifacts, and special events. As part of their cultural use, Indians will need to collect flora and fauna for traditional, noncommercial uses. This collection will be consistent with department policy.

Many park visitors merely want to look at the facilities available (for future reference) or want to briefly enjoy the view from Ceremonial Rock or the Agate Beach overlook. In response to their needs, the department allows short-term free access (see section on Conformance to Local Coastal Plan).

Rock climbing at Patrick's Point State Park is of regional significance and will be allowed to continue. All climbs currently attempted on Ceremonial Rock are nontechnical and, therefore, leave no scar on the face of the promontory. A special event permit will be required for all organized climbing groups.

The parking area east of the main meadow playfield receives very little use. Public use of this facility should be encouraged through improved signing and by clearly communicating the lot's association to nearby park attractions and use areas.

#### INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT

## Environmental Influences

There are a number of environmental influences that will affect interpretation at Patrick's Point State Park. Patrick's Point Drive intersects the park near its eastern boundary. Although the majority of north-south traffic uses Highway 101 farther to the east, vehicles on Patrick's Point Drive contribute some noise to the park. This will have a minor impact on the proposed Native American village in East Meadow and the proposed visitor center and entrance station complex, especially on any type of outdoor interpretive program such as demonstrations.

All along the coast, sand, wind, salt air, and dampness are detrimental to outdoor interpretive facilities such as panels. Facilities will be both designed and located to withstand these affects.

The Agate Beach bluff is composed of sands and marine deposits. These materials are very unstable on steep slopes and are susceptible to landsliding and water and wind erosion. No interpretive facilities should be planned for either the beach area or near the bluff. Live interpretive programs should also stay well away from the bluff. While the bluff around Patrick's Point is more stable, caution should be exercised here as well.

## Interpretive Themes

## Primary Theme: Working Together

Interrelatedness and interdependence among all natural and cultural resources is a central theme of the existing park museum. This theme will be emphasized at the future visitor center. At once this theme is broad enough to include most of the natural and cultural history topics in the park, yet it provides a point of view or a window for looking at them. Different kinds of interdependent relationships exist, including plant succession, food chains, the relationship between human beings and the environment, and the relationship between the land and the sea.

For example, plant succession is evident at Patrick's Point State Park. At one time, most of the area was burned or logged, either to open up pastureland or to harvest the lumber. The current vegetation is a response to those historical land management practices. The meadow areas are currently kept open only as a result of park land management practices.

# Secondary Theme: Straightening California's Coastline

According to author Don Greame Kelley, writing about the Pacific coastline in Edge of a Continent, "the prevailing western winds, the tremendous length of waves, and the large expanse of unprotected coast add up to the most powerful wave shock anywhere in the northern hemisphere." This wave shock influences both the landforms of the coastline at Patrick's Point State Park as well as the plant and animal life that live there.

The Pacific coastline is characterized by its great cliffs and steep bluffs. This edge of the continent, however, is purely temporary. The goal of the ocean seems to be to straighten out every indentation. Its waves, tides, and currents relentlessly attack the land. Headlands are battled down, their rocks are ground into sand, and the sand is deposited into the gaps in between. The land loses battle after battle, but the sea never ultimately wins. The land's best defence is its flexibility — it crumbles here but rises there due to earthquake movement and deposits of wind— and water—borne sand and soil. At best, there is a stalemate.

Exposure to the wind, salt, and wave shock adversely affect the distribution of shore life. Intertidal life, especially, bears the brunt of the ocean's force and has adapted for survival. Other life forms have adapted, including the sea lions who live amongst the crashing waves on the shoreline rocks, and the Sitka spruce which, unlike the redwood, have adapted to a life bathed in salt spray.

## Secondary Theme: Evolving Northwest Coast Cultures

No culture is static. A culture reacts to and is influenced by contacts with other cultures and to changes in its environment. This is how a culture survives. This is true of the various Native American peoples of the northwest coast of California. The material culture of this area has probably changed the most, responding to Euroamerican society. However, Native American beliefs and world views have probably changed the least. The dances and ceremonies that visitors witness, such as the ones at Patrick's Point State Park, are expressions of those beliefs. It is important for visitors to understand that there is still a Yurok culture, a Karok culture, a Wiyot culture, etc. They have changed but are very much alive.

Other aspects of California's northwest coast culture will be interpreted here as well, including the family (housing, relationships, duties, and the extended family), community relations (government, food acquisition, villages), and celebrations.

#### Visitor Activities

Personal contact between park staff and visitors is often the most rewarding and memorable part of an interpretive program for visitors. Visitor activities must be designed to meet the needs of the various kinds of visitors to the park. At Patrick's Point State Park, visitors fall into three general categories: campers and picnickers, local residents, and casual drop-in visitors who are mainly interested in just driving through the park. Since Patrick's Point is a well-established and popular park, a number of visitor activities are already occurring there.

Activities that are popular with picnickers and campers, especially those with some time to spend at the park, include the Junior Ranger Program, the Anti-Litter Program, and evening campfire programs. Campers and picnickers are also eager for short, organized hikes or walks, such as tidepool walks; tree, bird, or marine mammal identification walks; or agate identification programs at the beach. These programs will continue.

A fair number of visitors are travellers who casually drop in. Some activities should be designed to fit into their schedule, which may mean a limited amount of activity time. Watching demonstrations or joining in a hands-on experience at the visitor center or at the Native American village would be suitable for these visitors. Since many are only interested in quickly driving through, a short (about 15-minute) auto tour with several stops should be developed. This self-guiding tour could be accompanied by a brochure or radio message.

Other users of Patrick's Point State Park are north coast residents who may already know about and appreciate the resources. These people should be encouraged to use the park more. To discourage an "I've already been there" attitude, scheduled seasonal activities would encourage these people to return at different times of the year. Some of these kinds of special programs have been given at Patrick's Point and should be continued. Programs focusing on the mushrooms and whale watching are recommended. Low tides provide excellent opportunities for scheduled tidepool walks. These kinds of programs could include both on-site walks and talks, and workshops or seminars either at the park or at some location in the community. A cooperative program, such as a visiting scholar program, could be established with Humboldt State University. If advertised and promoted adequately, these could be excellent ways to encourage off-season park use.

According to the 1980 census, Native Americans comprise from 5-10% of the population of Humboldt County, where Patrick's Point State Park is located, and of Del Norte County to the north. Many of these people are native to the northwest coast and occasionally use the park for "Big Times" -- ceremonies and dances. With the construction of a Native American village and cultural use area at Patrick's Point, there will be a greater opportunity for these activities. In addition, cultural demonstrations will be held there throughout the year, perhaps salmon-smoking, canoe-building, basket-making, cooking, storytelling, or game-playing.

Construction of a representative Indian village and a cultural use area will enable unit staff and local schools to create an Environmental Living Program at the park. By role-playing, students can learn what it was like to live in a different time and society. As a result, they will understand some concepts about the relationships of people to the environment. This will fit well with the primary theme at the park, which is "interdependence". A Living History Program, in which a site becomes "alive" through people assuming historic roles, is another possibility here.

# Interpretive Facilities

Interpretive facilities at Patrick's Point State Park will be both on-site (out in the park where the resources are) and off-site (centralized at a particular location within the park).

Patrick's Point State Park is heavily used and highly developed. There is a need, however, for some additional interpretive facilities. Extraordinary sensitivity must be exercised so that future interpretive development does not clutter or detract from unit resources.

Existing interpretive facilities include panels at Palmer's Point and at the Agate Beach overlook, a park visitors center, a campfire center, and several trails.

## On-Site Facilities

#### Overlook Panels

Interpretive facilities should be placed at various existing land-use areas in the park, mostly at overlooks around the rim of Patrick's Point. This outdoor, on-site interpretation would best be limited to "low-key" panels, simple in design, subtle in color, and low in height so that they detract as little as possible from the surrounding environment. Such outdoor panels are most effective in interpreting what visitors can actually see or experience from that place rather than treating complicated processes or concepts. Topics for panels around the rim of Patrick's Point might include: agates, identification of points of interest in a particular view, bluff erosion, wave action, the receding shoreline, uplift, coastal explorers, Patrick Beegan (at Patrick's Point), sea lions/seals, whales, tidepools, and sea birds. In addition, panels would be appropriate in other places throughout the park to interpret particular features, such as sea stacks and mushrooms.

#### Trails

There is an existing trail around the rim of Patrick's Point from the Agate Beach overlook to Palmer's Point. Spurs lead off this trail to the various overlooks. Panels recommended for the overlooks would provide interpretation for trail users. Portions of this trail should be made fully accessible, perhaps from the Wedding Rock parking area out to Patrick's Point.

An existing self-guided trail circles through the "octopus forest" near Agate campground. The name octopus refers to the distorted roots of the old-growth Sitka spruce.

The Pacific Coastal Trail will be routed through Patrick's Point. No interpretive facilities are proposed on the trail itself. However, access to interpretive facilities at Patrick's Point should be made available to trail users, especially to the overlook panels, visitors center, and Native American village.

#### Off-Site Facilities

#### Visitors Center

A new visitors center is proposed as part of the new entrance station complex. An important function of the center will be orientation, both to the park and to adjacent areas. Located just inside the park, it will be a convenient stopping place for motorists. Park maps and brochures should be available, along with a staff person with knowledge of the local area and its parks.

The new visitors center will introduce visitors to park resources in general. In addition, it will introduce and interpret California northwest coast Indian cultures, especially as they relate to the nearby village.

Interpretive facilities in the visitors center should stress two areas: interpretation of places or things that are for some reason inaccessible to park users, and the interpretation of natural or cultural/historical concepts which can be more easily treated by facilities available in a visitors center than on-site. Conversely, things that can be interpreted on-site should be. It is generally not a good idea to bring the resources indoors. Seasonal topics can also be handled well in the visitors center. During the mushroom season or whale migration seasons, visitors should be encouraged to look at the real thing. But for the rest of the year, that information can be brought to visitors through some other interpretive media. An audio-visual program (slide show or video-taped program) is an effective medium. Such programs have the advantage of taking the visitor through time and space. This is an effective way to interpret seasons, processes, and concepts.

The center will also introduce visitors to the nearby Indian village. The two facilities will be connected by an interpretive trail. The visitors center will be the place to orient visitors to what they will see at the village, including certain ceremonies and dances, traditional structures, and other cultural demonstrations. It is important for visitors to understand the relationship between the intangible parts of a culture -- religion, beliefs, relationships, ideas -- and material culture -- houses, ceremonies, clothes, tools. One is a physical expression of the other. The center will avoid presenting Indian-related items as simply artifacts or art objects that are interesting or esthetically pleasing. They are expressions of a culture and have certain meanings or functions.

Some Native American people who are now involved in coordinating Big Times in the area have expressed an interest in possibly displaying some of their own dance regalia when they are not using it. This would be an excellent opportunity for interpretation. A vault should also be provided at the visitors center to secure valuable ceremonial items.

Some type of audio-visual presentation along with the static displays should be very effective in presenting cultural concepts.

The visitors center should interpret all California northwest coast Indian peoples. This is important because a number of these cultural groups will be using the village for certain ceremonies and at Big Times. These peoples should be interpreted from pre-contact times to the present.

#### Village

The purpose of this village is two-fold: to provide a facility to be used by Indian people to stage ceremonies and dances, and to interpret California northwest coast Indian cultures to the general park visitor. Since Patrick's Point is in the midst of Yurok territory, the village should represent a traditional coast Yurok village as an example of one Indian group on the north coast. However, use of the village for ceremonies, dances, cultural demonstrations, and interpretive programs will be open to a wide variety of people and groups.

While the visitors center will contain broad subject matter, village facilities will focus specifically on village life. The visitors center will present a flow of history, while village facilities should represent a

particular place in time. And the visitors center will interpret California northwest coast Indian peoples in general, while the village will focus on the Yurok as one example of California northwest coast Indian peoples.

Village facilities should include structures that would have complemented a pre-1850 village: several family houses, sweathouse, dance pit, and any other ancillary structures. These facilities must be usable rather than be given house museum treatment. Very unobtrusive panels, using Yurok words whenever possible, should be placed in or near the village to interpret the structures.

The village can become a backdrop for other activities as well as Big Times. Cultural demonstrations will teach younger Indians the traditions of their culture, while serving as interpretive programs for the general visiting public.

The trail to the village from the visitors center will function much like the self-guiding trails leading to Nemok at Yosemite National Park and Kule Loklo at Point Reyes National Seashore. Visitors will become oriented to the Yurok village by reading several panels along the trail. These panels should also use Yurok words whenever possible, be unobtrusive, and be made of natural materials.

#### Campfire Center

The existing campfire center, located south of the entrance station, consists of a screen, lights, projector stand, and benches. Campfire programs held during the summer months when visitation is highest are very popular.

#### CONCESSIONS ELEMENT

### Existing Concessions

There are currently no concession activities at Patrick's Point State Park.

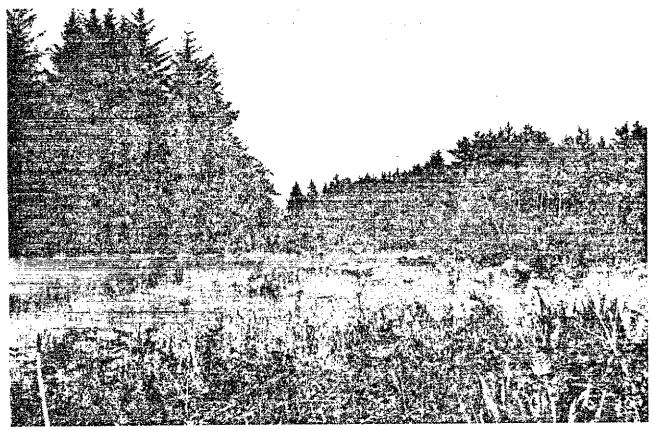
### Potential Concession Activities

Patrick's Point State Park is close to several small communities that currently provide park users with retail services. Park improvements, including increased camping facilities, should create greater demand for these services. The Humboldt County Local Coastal Plan discourages the state from developing facilities that would compete with private commercial facilities.

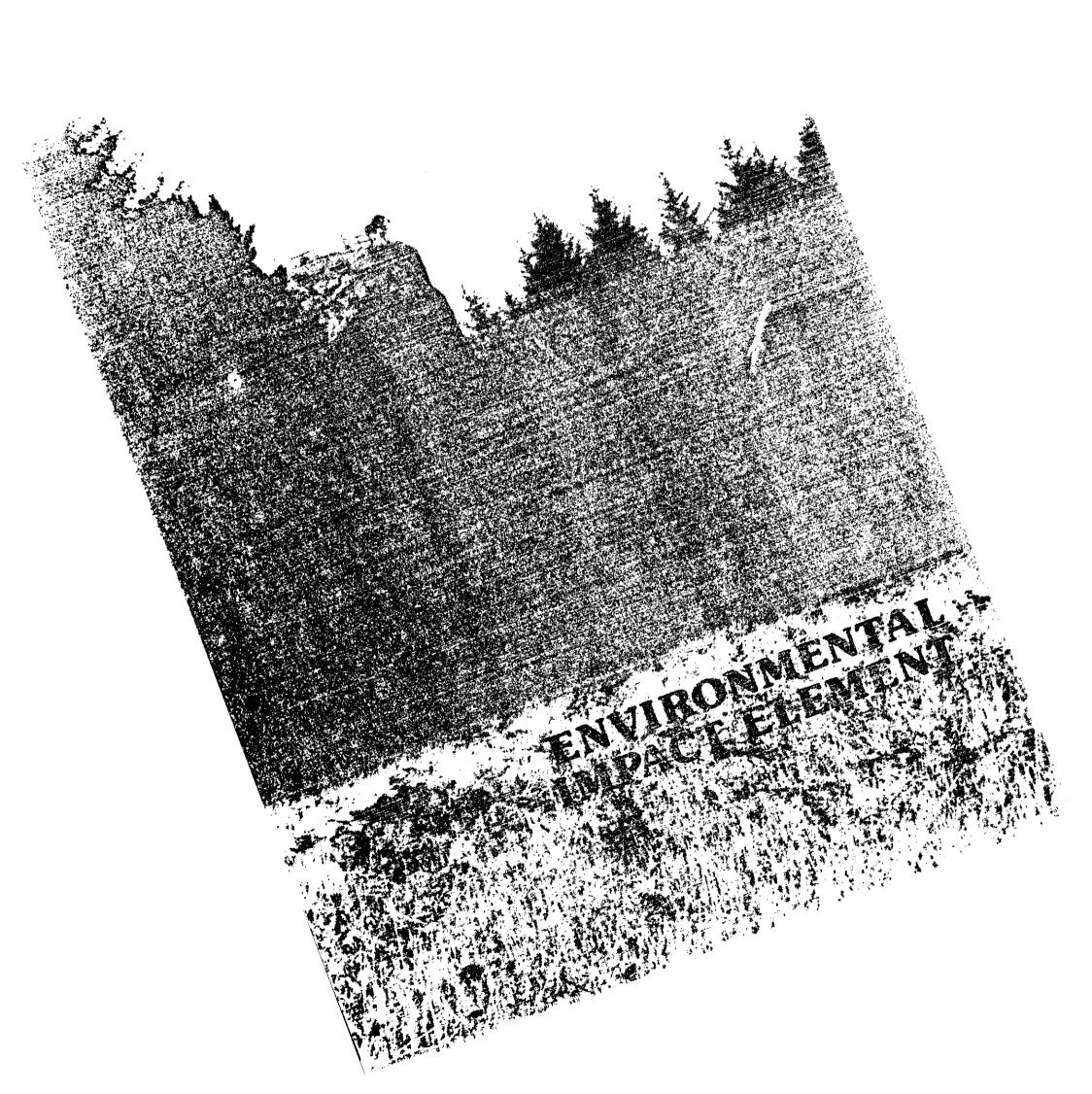
There is no current need for concession activities, but with increased park use certain concessions may be appropriate. The sale of Native American arts and crafts may be associated with the functions of the proposed visitors center.

# Appropriate Concession Policies and Guidelines

Appropriate concession activities for Patrick's Point State Park are limited to: 1) those not directly competing with retail services provided by surrounding communities, and 2) special event activities compatible with the park's environment and approved by the area manager.



Main meadow



#### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

The Environmental Impact Element serves as the environmental impact report required by the California Environmental Quality Act and the State EIR Guidelines.

The Environmental Impact Element incorporates by reference the other elements of the general plan as the Project Description and Description of the Existing Environment. It should be recognized that the level of detail of the Environmental Impact Element is similar to that of the general plan. As development plans for specific sites are proposed, they will be subject to further environmental review and on-site checks, and appropriate environmental documents will be prepared if necessary.

### Significant Environmental Effects

It is impractical to quantify any significant environmental effects for a general plan. A general plan is not specific enough to make any accurate projection. Given the nature of the site and the proposed development found in this general plan (no immediate large urban areas, good air quality, nonintensive development generally designed within geobiological constraints, or to protect historic or prehistoric resources), impacts may be considered significant only in the view of the quality of the environment and the goal of the department to preserve and protect the resources.

- 1. Increased capacity will permit increased use. Indirect impacts are soil erosion, vegetation loss, disruption or disturbance of wildlife, vandalism or accidental destruction of cultural resources.
- 2. Direct impacts of construction of the proposed facilities are noise generation from construction equipment, fuel consumption, air pollution generation, soil erosion, soil compaction, and loss of vegetation. Noise generation and air pollution from construction are temporary impacts. There are no sensitive facilities, such as schools or hospitals, in the vicinity.

# Unavoidable Environmental Effects

More adverse effects of proposed developments have been mitigated by land use limitations or facilities locations, or can be mitigated by site development plans.

- 1. Removal of vegetation and creation of impervious surface areas will accelerate soil erosion.
- 2. Indirect impacts of increased use are unavoidable, although they may be reduced. Monitoring of sensitive or critical resources by staff and the implementation of resource protection programs may be adequate mitigation.

### Mitigation Measures

- 1. All excavation will be reviewed by the department's Cultural Resource Management Unit. Excavations or ground disturbances in culturally sensitive areas will be monitored by a department archeologist or historian.
- 2. Utility lines will be undergrounded where they are a visual intrusion.

  Parking areas, such as those near East Meadow, will be screened with vegetation.
- 3. Trails, roads, picnic sites, campsites, and building sites will be selected, designed, or aligned to reduce erosion. Capacity will be limited in some areas by erosion.
- 4. Facilities will be sited to reduce vegetation loss.
- 5. Development will be located away from the bluff's edge to reduce the geologic hazard of bluff instability.
- Construction will generally be scheduled during the dry season, which will reduce erosion from soil disturbance. Disturbed areas will be revegetated.

### Alternative<u>s</u>

The "no project" alternative would leave development at its current level.

Minor development would continue to maintain or upgrade existing facilities.

Certain problems would continue: inadequate parking, lack of public access to some areas, unsatisfied demand for camping facilities, and inadequate facilities for visitor contact and interpretation.

The alternatives of less or more development are not ruled out with the adoption of the general plan. The general plan is only a guideline for development. To meet increased recreational demands, additional or more intensive development may be possible, to a minor degree, within environmental constraints and general plan guidelines. Conversely, in the preparation of the site development plans, previously unknown environmental constraints may require less-intensive development.

# Relationship Between Short-Term Uses and the Maintenance or Enhancement of Long-Term Productivity

The proposed short-term and long-term use is preservation and recreation. Resources will be protected and, should another use prove more beneficial to the public than preservation, the resources will be available. There is no intent to enhance potential productivity.

# Irreversible Environmental Changes

No new land areas or natural resources will be irreversibly changed because of plan implementation. Development proposals generally involve areas of previous impact, and the nature of the development is such that it could be

removed and sites returned to pre-development conditions. Only the use of building materials and energy consumed in construction, operation, and maintenance may be considered an irreversible commitment of resources.

### Growth-Inducing Impacts

There will be a minor growth-inducing impact due to the increased recreational capacity and staffing. Increased recreational capacity may create greater demand for support facilities, such as service stations, grocery stores, restaurants, and sports equipment outlets. However, the impact is not projected to be significant. The potential increase in user capacity, compared to existing regional capacity, is small. Demands created by staff increases would be typical of residential needs -- schools, hospitals, etc. -- and be so minor as to be within the capacity of existing facilities.

### Effects Found Not Significant

- 1. Proposed development will create new impervious surface areas which will alter the rate and timing of runoff. However, in comparison to total watershed area, the increase is insignificant.
- 2. Air quality, noise, and traffic impacts are not considered significant. There are no immediate sensitive facilities (schools, hospitals, residential areas) which would be affected. The capacity increase is not substantial and, therefore, will not generate substantial increases in noise, traffic, and air pollution.
- 3. Sewage and other waste production, water consumption, and fuel consumption will rise only proportionally as use increases. Water supply and sewage treatment are provided by the unit.
- 4. Water quality should not significantly deteriorate. Sediments from erosion may temporarily increase after construction but will diminish with reestablishment of vegetation. Runoff that carries contaminants from impervious surface areas (roadways, parking areas, and buildings) will increase, but it will be small compared to total watershed runoff.
- 5. No rare or endangered plants and animals, or unusual plant associations, will be significantly affected by the proposed development.

I-1292L

# SELECTED REFERENCES

California State Department of Parks and Recreation, California Recreation Trails and Hostel Plan, March 1975.	· ·	
, Dry Lagoon State Park and Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area General Plan (Preliminary), 1983.		17 75 5 3
, Underwater Parks Master Plan, May 1979.		
Humboldt County Planning Department, Trinidad Area Plan/Local Coastal Plan,		TH .

# PAGE ONE

# SUMMARY OF INITIAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT (What We've Heard So Far)

# INTRODUCTION (READ THIS FIRST)

In preparing the General Plans for these two parks, we are nearing completion of the *initial* stages of public involvement. A questionnaire has been in distribution since May 29; an open discussion was held with students at H.S.U. on May 26; a campfire program was held at Patrick's Point State Park on June 15; and a public meeting was held on June 16 at Big Lagoon Elementary School.

The purpose of this flyer is two-fold. First, we want to inform you of all the concerns, and suggestions we have been hearing. Second, we would like to hear your individual reaction to the suggestions that have been made. This will greatly help us as we begin to create land use options. (We expect to present those options to you in September, 1982, through both a local meeting and a mailout.)

PAGE ONE Summarizes the statistical results of the questionnaires. These findings are only preliminary since questionnaires continue to be returned.

PAGE TWO Summarizes the general suggestions made at the public discussions, and thru the questionnaires. Would you evaluate these and return page two via the postpaid return address? Thank you.

# QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

The questionnaire results provide park planners with the range of user preference and concern. The questionnaire was not intended to be a statistical representation of park users.

A total of 133 questionnaires have been returned so far.

#### RESPONDANT PROFILE

In What City and State Do You Live?

in Area	Out of Area
Arcata 21%	Central Valley
Eureka	Bay Area 6%
Trinidad8%	L.A. Area
McKinleyville, 5%	Other California 6%
Orick1%	Out of State 17%
Other Local	Out of Country
TOTAL . 48%	TOTAL 51%



In Area —	16 to 25	29%	26 to 35	29%	36 to 55	14%	56+	17%
Out of Area -	- 16 to 25	16%	26 to 35	26%	36 to 55	35%	561	240

PATRICK'S POINT STATE PARK

DRY LAGOON STATE PARK

In the following results, the first percentage reflects the choice of people who live in the area, the second percentage reflects the choice of people who live outside the area. (The total percentage for each question does not always balance to "100" because: 1) on some questions it was appropriate to check more than one answer, and 2) some respondents did not answer each question.) How often do you visit the parks and scenic areas shown on the map to the right? (2%)(56%) This is first time (14%)(17%) Two to five times a year (57%)(0%) Over ten times a year (0%)(10%) Once a year (17%)(4%) Five to ten times a year (6%)(11%) Irregularly How many people are in your party? 116%)(6%) One (37%)(49%) Two. (32%)(24%) Three to four (8%)(20%) Five to ten (5%)(1%) Over ten What is your mode of transportation in travelling through the area? (87%)197%; Automobile (2%)(4%) Bus (10%)(0%) Bicycle (6%)(1%) Hitchhike (35%)(0%) Hike (3%)(0%) other Would you continue to use the parks in this area if gasoline prices sharply rise to \$2/gallon? (81%)(62%) Yes (3%)(14%) No (16%)(27%) Not sure Where did you stay overnight? (in the space provided, indicate the number of nights) (57%) Patrick's Point SP - - (11%) Eureka [7%] Trinidad [1%] Klamath (9%) Prairie Creek Redwoods SP (14%) Arcata (1%) Orick (10%) Other What type of accommodations? (23%) Motel (31%) Tent (4%) Under stars [1%) Bed n' breakfast (37%) R.V. (11%) Friend's home What is your final destination on this trip? (49%) This area is it (10%) San Francisco and further south (31%) Oregon and further nogth (4%) Central California and further east What attracts you to the parks along this part of the California coast? (81%) [96%] Scenery (33%) (29%) Azaless (54%) [56%] Beachcombing (2%) [4%] Hunting (2%)(3%) Waterskiing (66%) (66%) Nature observation (32%)(16%) Fishing (68%)(59%) Hiking (63%)(83%) Redwoods, (75%)(79%) Beach (70%)(74%) Quiet (22%)(17%) Cool temp. (52%)(66%) Camping (13%)(0%) Sailing (48%)(1%) It.s nearby (52%)(27%) Lagoons (60%)(64%) Relaxing (10%)(20%) Driving (17%)(6%) Bicycling (11%)(4%) Boating (30%)(14%) Friends (11%)(0%) Rain (2%)(6%) Surfing (17%)(4%) Schoolwork (33%)(27%) Birdwatching (Other attractions which were written in included: rock climbing, health, photography, isolation, excellent facilities, and Which three items, of those you identified in No. 9, should the State Park planners be most careful to protect or encourage? Please underline each. [The top six underlined items were: scenery (29%) (49%), redwoods (24%) (40%), quiet (25%) (26%), nature observation (17%) (27%), beach (13%) (25%), and camping (9%) (16%)] What do you especially dislike about this area? (21%)(44%) Nothing (43%)(9%) Off road vehicles (3%)(10%) Many areas inaccessable (13%)(16%) Weather (11%)(4%) Commercialism (3%)(0%) Too much government-owned land. (15%)(10%) Litter (10%)(3%) Too crowded (3%)(6%) Traffic (10%)[4%] Too little government-owned land [Other problems written in included: too few campgrounds, vandalism, no horse riding, over-developed, narrow roads, dogs.] As you visit the state parks in this area, do you need to be provided more background information on: (32%)(33%) Cultural features (Native American history, gold mining, etc.) (28%) [54%) Natural features\_(lagoons, redwoods, elk, etc.) (17%)(31%) Recreational opportunities (other parks in the area, activities, atc.) (41%)(17%) No additional interpretation needed Are these visitor services/facilities which you think need to be increased or added? (6%)(3%) Boating facilities (11%)(16%) Rastrooms (11%)(13%) Native American exhibits/programs (25%)(5%) Traditional campground (25%)(10%) Trail system (10%)(13%) Highway scenic overlooks (25%)(5%) Hike-in campground (13%)(15%) Beach access (24%)(15%) Visitor center to orient to parks in the area (17%)(16%) No additional services/facilities are needed (6%)(3%) Group campground (11%)[1%] Hostel (21%)(11%) Leave or return to nature (4%)(0%) Day use parking [A substantial percentage (8%) (20%) of the respondents failed to answer this question.] How familiar are you with Patrick's Point State Park? (24%)(11%) I've camped there often (46%)(26%) I've visited during the day (25)(1%) I've camped there once or twice (25)(1%) Never been How familiar are you with Dry Lagoon State Park? 132%)[9%] Have walked through often (22%)[33%) Aware, have driven by 135%)[16%] Have walked through olics or twice (3%)(29%) Never noticed

# PAGE TWO

# SUMMARY OF SUGGESTIONS

The following is a list of those written suggestions made thus far. Your reactions to these suggestions will give us a better indication of what issues are important to you. Thank you for your prompt response.

Please evaluate the following suggestions by placing the appropriate number to the left of the statement. Please rate each statement on the following basis:

- 1.....Means you are strongly opposed.
- 2.....Means you are mildly opposed.
- 3.....Means you have equally mixed feelings OR do not understand OR it isn't important to you.
- 4.... Means you mildly agree.
- 5..... Means you strongly agree.

Space is provided behind each statement for you to make an additional comment, justification or clarification.

The following are suggestions made on individual idea sheets during the public meeting at Big Lagoon Elementary School.

E1611	eritary scribbs.
<b></b> -	AVERAGE SCORE
4.2	Minimum development, preserve the resources
3.5	Leave the parks the way they are
3.0	Provide recreation opportunities
2,3	Maximum development while preserving the resources
4.3	No development on meadows at Patrick's Point
2.8	Develop Stone Lagoon as needed
2,5	Qevelop Petrick's Point as needed
3.7	Keep Lagoons undeveloped
2.5	Only develop the bluff above Agate Seach
3,7	Patrick's Point SP is at its peak of development
4.2	Preserve the Azaleas
3,9	Don't open Azalea Hill to extensive public use
3,4	Maintain the meadows at Patrick's Point
3,7	Protect the agricultural lands
2,7	Duck Hunting should be continued on the lagoons
3.4	No hunting of any kind
3,9	No big game hunting
3.7	Restore fisheries at McDonald Creek (Stone Lagoon)
3,7	Stock Stone Lagoon and Big Lagoon with fish
3.5	County should continue to manage Big Lagoon County Park
2,7	State should acquire and operate county park
1.9	State parks should be run by the county
3,5	The county park should stay as it is
3.4	The county park should stay as it is
3.3	Include Yurok Village and Cultural Center in final plan
4,5	De not make Indian Village tecky
2.9	Indian Center should be at Ryan's Cove on Stone Lagoon
2,8	For its protection, the Yurok Village should be at Patrick's Point
3.8	Protect Native American sites
3.8	Encourage pedestrian access only
3,9	Beach and parks access to non-motorized vehicles only
3,9	Make facilities accessable to the handicapped
2.2	Develop a 250 to 300 space day use parking lot, either park
3.0	Add boat ramps, docks, and restrooms.
3.3	Remove little red hen buildings, replace with day use facilities.
2,9	Re-establish little red hen as a restaurant,
3.4	Upgrade boat faunching at Yacht Club site on Big Lagoon
3.2	Davelop group campground at Yacht Club size
_x-x-	No high-speed boats on Stone Lagoon or Big Lagoon
3.7	No motor boats on Stone Lagoon, firmted H.P. on Big Lagoon
3.5	No waterskiing on Big Lagoon
	4

THE LIST CONTINUES ON THE OTHER SIDE



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AVERAGE SCORE  2.3 Horse trails are needed  2.5 Construct a horse trail at Patrick's Point SP  3.5 Trail to view Lagoon Breach	-	
2.5 Construct a horse trail at Patrick's Point SP	<del></del>	
3.5 Trail to year 1 accord Breach		
Franco view Cagoon Diesen	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
3.5 Include nature center somewhere 3.9 Education is important at State Parks		
3.9 Education is important at State Parks		*
2.9 Include resource interpretive facilities at Big Lagoon 3.4. Improve and enlarge museum at Patrick's Point 3.0 Provide nighway pull-offs with interpretation		!
22. Improve and entangle interest of a control of the control of t		
4.0 No off road vehicles sillowed anywhere in park	`	
4.2 Final plan should be managable by parks staff		
3.8 Provide both traditional and primitive campgrounds		
2.5 5 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4		
S.2. Upgrade the Stone Lagoon Campground     Convert Stone Lagoon Campground Convert Stone Lagoon Campground to day use	<del></del>	
3.0 Convert Stone Lagoon campground to day use		•
3.4 Limited camping, mostly day use at Big Lagoon	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
3.7. Develop a coastal trail		
Increase staff		•
4.3 Keep parks safe from vandals/criminals		
3.8 Improve garbage pickup	- :	
3.8 Improve communication between rangers and visitors	·	- 71
3.2. No nude beaches		
3.8 Should be free day use		
4.2 Keep fees at a minimum		
3.0 Increase user fees to care costs of operation		
3.0 No fees for locals 3.0 No additional acquisition		
3.0 Acquire Azales Hill without displacing homes		
3.0 Acquire Azales Hill without displacing homes		
2.8 Too much governmental control	······································	
The following are additional suggestions gleaned from the returned questionnaires.		
3.9 Rock climbing should continue at Patrick's Point SP 2.7 Better beach access at Patrick's Point SP		,
Z.5 Widen access road to Dry Lacond Carking Int		
2.7 Provide camping facilities at Dry Laggon		
7.5 m · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
2.6 Add campsites at new property near Palmer's Point	···	
3.1 Campsites should have opening for sun		
4.1 Keep campsites separate and secluded		
3.3 Increase evening campfire programs 3.3 Reservations should be made with park, not Tigketron		•
2.5 Provide RV hookups and dump station at Patrick's Point		
1,0000 (10 1,000,00)		
The following are additional suggestions made at the campfire program at Patrick's Po	int SP	
3.3 Provide a separate bike trail at Patrick's Point SP		
3.5 Fast traffic is a hazard at Patrick's Point SP		
Let visitor see "Blue Goo" up close		-
3.6 Improve exigence to again state darks for outside visitors		F
3.6 Construct handleap/self-quided trail		
3.5 Improve orientation to area state parks for outside visitors 3.5 Construct handloap/self-guided trail 3.2 Develop trails through Azalea Hill		:
3.2 Provide turn-off for viswing elk at Big Lagoon		
		–
The following are additional suggestions made at the student discussions at H.S.U.		- • –
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# Patrick's Point State Park and Dry Lagoon State Park State Department of Parks and Recreation

# QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NATIVE AMERICANS ON IDEAS FOR RECONSTRUCTING A YUROK VILLAGE

There have been several proposals since at least 1963 for reconstructing a Yurok Village or an Indian cultural site somewhere on California's north coast. Your assistance and involvement is needed to help plan and develop this

Nothing has been decided about the specific elements or siting of this facility. The final plan should meet three

- Provide a setting for interpreting Indian culture of northwestern California to visitors.
- Provide a place for Indian people to continue traditional cultural activities.
- 3. Help to preserve important elements of Native American heritage that are unique to California's north

These are some of our working assumptions about this project:

- If a reconstructed village/cultural site is to be successful, the active support and involvement of the local Native American community is needed.
- Some arrangements are possible for exclusive use of certain areas at specific times or for the village itself at certain times. Access will be subject to regulation to provide security, visitor control, and resource protection.
- It is possible that areas can be used for the sale of traditional arts and crafts on special days and/or through a sales outlet at the facility through a concessionaire or non-profit Native American organization.
- The village is intended to provide a place for Indian people to speak for themselves about their traditional culture and history. Interpretation at the village could be done by the Native American community, by State Park Interpreters, or by a combination of the two.

The State Department of Parks and Recreation is currently formulating general plans for Patrick's Point State Park and Dry Lagoon State Park. Consultations with Native Americans will continue as part of this general plan process. Plans and alternatives will be discussed at public meetings. The final general plan for these parks is currently scheduled to be reviewed by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in June 1983, It will still be a few years before construction could begin.

	•	~			
1. V	Vhat kinds of things should	he part of this village/ou			anking based on question No. 2 ghest priority)
	(a) Family houses	16 [j] Sales area		المار المار	O Dicriic area
	·				- ,
	(b) Sweat houses	15 (k) Interpretive trai		(p) Day-u	
_	(c) Ceremonial area	13 [] [] Family camping			
	l (d) Museum	17 [m] Group camping		(r) Storag	-
		10 (n) Family picnic a	rea 6 ☐	(s) Group	o cooking and food service facilities
	(f) Costume change area				
	(g) Indian demonstrations of				
	(h) Space for camper truck,				
	(i) Other				
3.	Will Indian people need to Please specify		thin the park?	втн	
		ionial 🗎 Interpretive u			ions for delebrations
4.	How often do you think s	ach a village might be use	ed by Indian gr	оцря?	
		Two to four times a year			mes a year
5.	How many people would y	rou expect to attend a bi	g time celebrat	ion?	
	☐ 50-100 . 44% ☐	200-500 2%	☐ More than 1.6	000	
13%	. ⊡: 100-200 20%, □	500-1,000 20%	Hard to estim	aç <del>e</del>	
6.	How close would a campge	ound need to be?			
5%	Part of the village site	32% C Within the	park		
44%	<ul> <li>Within a snort walk</li> </ul>	18% 🚍 Could be o	outside the park	•	-
7.	How important would a m	useum be as part of an in	sterpretive pro	gram at th	is village?
3%	□ Not necessary 43%	☐ Would be nice 5:	2% 🗆 Absolutely	/ necessary	OF THE PARTY OF TH



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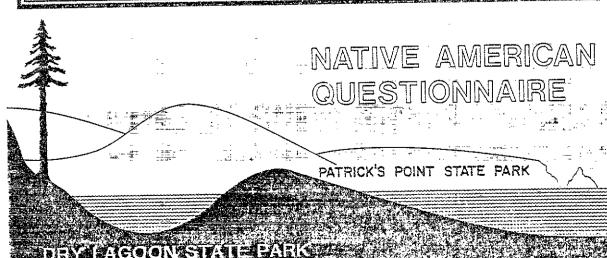
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CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION P.O. BOX 2390 SACRAMENTO, CA 95811

ATTENTION: Clayton Phillips

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UNITED STATES

	ng is desirable for a village sit	4% 🔲 Not important	
	,_ 200 (* 🕳 * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	Other	-
15% 🖸 Along a lagoon.	20% □ On a meadow _		
	it to reconstruct on an actual		
2% 🗆 Don't 12%	☐ Not important 52% ☐ Im		
	ruction proceed it part of the	e soil has to be removed by archeologists?	
5% 🖸 Stop project _	70% Continue under inc	tudy and consideration? (Please give specific locations)	
			_
	e Lagoon/Big Lagoon		
Other		and wish other Storth Coast tribes?	
		perative project with other North Coast tribes?	
28% 🗆 Yurok .	71% 🖸 Cooperat	itive project	
<ol><li>Do you have other</li></ol>	r concerns for the design or o	concept of a Yurok village at this time? (please describe)	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
			:
			:
A Ara there program	n areas for this village in whic		:
	n areas for this village in which	ch you would like to participate?	 : . · · ·
7% 🗖 Design	10% 🗆 Construction	ich you would like to participate?  11%   Maintenance  7%   Interpretation	:
7% Design 13% Craft Demonstration	10% Construction	ich you would like to participate?  11%   Maintenance 7%   Interpretation  11%   Other	:
7% Design 13% Craft Demonstration	10% Construction	ich you would like to participate?  11%   Maintenance 7%   Interpretation  11%   Other	be
7% □ Design 13% □ Craft Demonstration The results of this que	10%   Construction  16%   Celebrations  estionnaire will be used it	ich you would like to participate?  11%   Maintenance  7%   Interpretation	be
7% © Design 13% © Craft Demonstration The results of this que discussed at public me	10% Construction  16% Celebrations  estionnaire will be used in eetings and by mail.	ch you would like to participate?  11%	be
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